TEX-MEX TONIGHT
TRY THESE FAJITAS WITH A TWIST {page 34}

LADY GAGA PROMOTES HER NEW ALBUM

{page 27}

CALGARY metro®
Thursday, May 26, 2011
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

Keeping. Faith

▶ Ashley Clark salvages items from a family member's devastated Joplin, Mo., home yesterday.

CHARLIE RIEDEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rummaging through the wreckage

The search for survivors continued yesterday after an EF5 tornado tore through much of Joplin, Mo., Sunday, damaging a hospital and hundreds of homes and businesses and killing at least 122 people. **More coverage, pages 16-17.**

Calgarians reporting more sex offences

Nearly 20 per cent increase seen in sex-related crimes from 2010 to 2011

JEREMY NOLAIS
@METRONEWS.CA

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

▶ Sexual assault victim Nicole Brady has devoted her life to studying the effects of experiences like hers on women from various cultures

The four individuals responsible for sexually assaulting Calgary's Nicole Brady have never been charged.

Now a criminal sociology student, Brady admits her relationship with police was not exactly favourable at first, but over time she began to see their value when working with victims like herself.

"Even now, compared to 10 years ago, it's taken a lot more seriously by people," she said. "There's still a long way to go."

Nevertheless, Brady was pleased to hear more and more individuals who experienced or witnessed a sex-related offence are turning to police.

Acting Staff Sgt. Paul Wyatt deemed the growth in reports made to police "considerable," noting that offences can include everything from indecent exposure and peeping Toms to crimes of a more serious nature, such as those experienced by Brady.

Wyatt attributes much of the increase to new public initiatives like Connect. Launched in February in conjunction with the province and numerous other public agencies, the program provides a communication access point for victims of abusive relationships and other offences.

"People are reporting more because they have confidence in the police," Wyatt added. "They feel comfortable picking up the phone and calling the police and feel the response is going to be appropriate."

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Calgary police on hunt for shooting witnesses

Police are searching for witnesses in the shooting of a 40-year-old man that took place Tuesday night.

Around 9:50 p.m., two unidentified males and one female dropped off the man at the Rockyview Hospital. Before police arrived, however, the individuals had left.

Duty Insp. James Hardy said the investigation is still in the early stages. He said the victim was the subject of a shooting two years ago and is known to police.

"I don't know if it's gang-related," said Hardy, adding it was, however, a targeted attack.

The victim was later transported to the Foothills Hospital in life-threatening condition and received emergency treatment. Following surgery, he was upgraded to stable condition. Hardy said the victim was initially co-operating with police.

The 6 District GIU is leading the investigation and is in the process of interviewing potential witnesses.

Anyone with information related to this shooting is asked to call Crimes Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or by texting tttTIPS to 274637.

KATIE TURNER

For more news, visit metronews.ca/calgary

JOHN ULAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Slave Lake resident Brenda Derkoch talks to reporters after returning to the Athabasca Multiplex evacuation shelter on Monday, following a tour of her burnt-out town, where her home was destroyed.

Life to return to Slave Lake within days, officials say

Transportation to be provided for those without vehicles ◐ Power fully restored ◐ Natural gas available in areas not destroyed ◐ Water running

Life is returning to the fire-scarred and empty streets of Slave Lake in northern Alberta.

Officials outlined a three-stage plan yesterday to send essential workers home first, followed by workers at major businesses. The rest of the 7,000 residents could end nearly two weeks of exile as early as Friday.

"It's very exciting for us," said Mayor Karina Pillay-Kinnee.

"It's probably precedent-setting and we couldn't have done it without all the resources, all the volunteers, and the municipalities and the province. I've never seen anything like it."

Slave Lake was emptied by a raging wildlife that roared out of control May 15, stoked by winds gusting up to 100 kilometres an hour. Some people had mere minutes to collect their families, gather a lifetime's worth of memories, get in their cars and drive.

For many, it was just in time.

The fire devastated whole blocks of homes and businesses. Neighbourhoods were flattened. Houses burned to their foundations and yards reduced to ashy tundra. Hundreds of vehicles were incinerated. Businesses and government offices were reduced to tangled piles of rubble.

Officials have estimated about one-third of the town was damaged or destroyed.

Fire refugees have been staying in hotels, with family and friends, or at one of three evacuee centres. But that was coming to an end yesterday with the return of essential workers to the community.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Return stages

- **Key people going back first:** "People with health services, utilities, infrastructure people, governance people ... to support the re-entry of everybody else," the mayor said.
- **Employees of vital businesses** such as grocery stores, banks and gas stations are to be allowed back today — if all goes well.
- **Everybody else** is to follow tomorrow, again, as long as there are no problems.

1 news

So much real cash is being spent on virtual goods, you'll wish you thought of it first. Scan code for story.

To scan 2D barcodes in Metro, download the free ScanLife app at 2dscan.com.

On the web at metronews.ca

Interim Liberal Leader Bob Rae says his party heard the tough message from Canadian voters loud and clear. Video at metronews.ca

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News in brief

Liberals revise health policy

DOCTORS FOR ALL. Alberta Liberal party Leader David Swann outlined his party's new health-care policy yesterday, saying it focuses on front-line health-care delivery.

The five-step plan recommends disbanding Alberta Health Care Services, ensuring all Albertans have a family doctor and revitalizing prevention programs.

"Albertans want to feel confident that their public health-care system will be there when they need it," Swann said.

METRO

Rainbow line flowing again

PIPE UP. Part of a key oil pipeline in northern Alberta is back in service after wildfires caused a 10-day outage.

Plains Midstream Canada says the southern leg of its Rainbow pipeline restarted at about 1 p.m. yesterday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Climbers die in avalanche

DENALI. Two climbers have been killed in an avalanche on Mount Frances in Alaska.

Maureen McLaughlin, a spokeswoman for Denali National Park, identified them as Jiro Kurihara, 33, of Canmore, and Junya Shiraishi, 28, of Sapporo, Japan. She says they died while attempting a new route on the west face of the mountain.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hope for missing children takes flight

WestJet fliers asked to be a part of initiative ◗ Community support, new technology vital to reuniting families, Missing Children Society says

JEREMY NOLAIS
@METRONEWS.CA

Never give up. Keep the home fires burning. No mountain, no river, no border nor divides can separate a parent from their child … their love is ever so strong.

These messages and many more are meant to instil hope in families searching for a missing child. They come as part of a new initiative by Calgary-based WestJet called "Give Hope. Take Action," in support of the Missing Children Society of Canada.

Starting yesterday, all WestJet customers on a domestic flight longer than an hour will be asked to write a similar message and pledge to take one action to stop abduction.

"I can't imagine what a nightmare it would be to have a child go missing. It would be a truly frightening thing."
GREGG SARETSKY, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE, WESTJET

Even the airline's senior officials are taking part.

"My lifestyle pledge to stop abduction is to keep up to date with the Missing Children Society's online missing children directory," writes Gregg Saretsky, president and chief executive. "As I travel around North America … perhaps there will be a face I'll recognize from the directory."

WestJet has partnered with the society since 2004, providing free flights for families when their missing child is found.

Several staff members such as Vincent Ly worked in their spare time to get the project off the ground.

"I didn't realize before this that a child is abducted every 10 seconds," Ly said. "So it's awareness for me and everybody else."

Amanda Pick, executive director of the Missing Children Society, said community support has made a world of difference.

"I'm happy to say WestJet's contribution has already changed lives in terms of bringing children home," she said.

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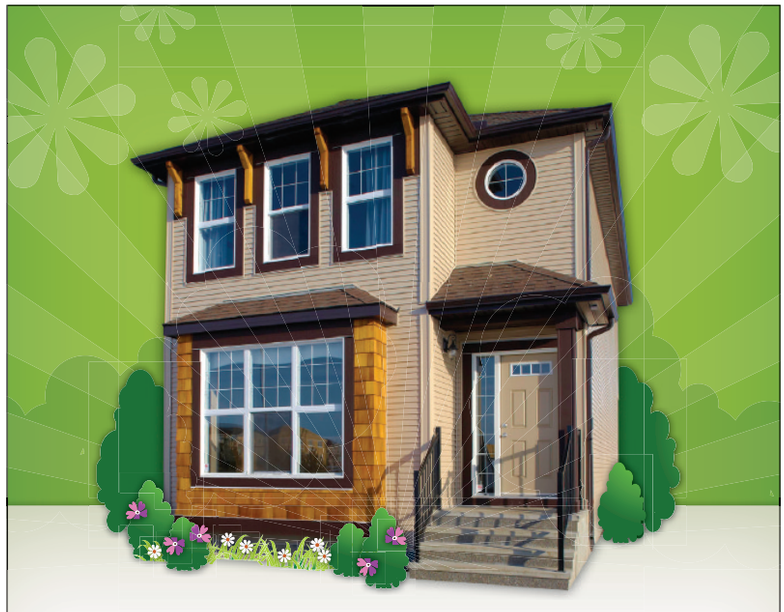

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JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

▶ The Missing Children Society's Amanda Pick was joined by WestJet employees Carlin Dyck, left, and Vincent Ly yesterday in the fight to stop child abduction in Canada.

Calgary app company launching missing child alert

Smartphone users will have the opportunity to help play a role in finding missing children after a Calgary-based application company launches a new alert feature.

Poynt, a search tool for locating places like restaurants and businesses, has partnered with the Missing Children Society of Canada and will begin sending out alerts to users.

"Because we help people find things, we thought being able to help find children would be a perfect fit," said Margaret Glover-Campbell of Poynt.

She explained the push alert system will send out a photo and description of the child to people in the geographic area where the child was abducted or last seen.

KATIE TURNER/METRO

▶ Margaret Glover-Campbell of Poynt

Poynt has more than 7.6-million users in eight countries. Having such a large base is critical because the more eyes on the missing child, the more likely he or she is to be found.

"This is a game-changer, and the reason why is because it is so area-specific," said Amanda Pick, executive director of the Missing Children Society.

The feature launches in June.

KATIE TURNER

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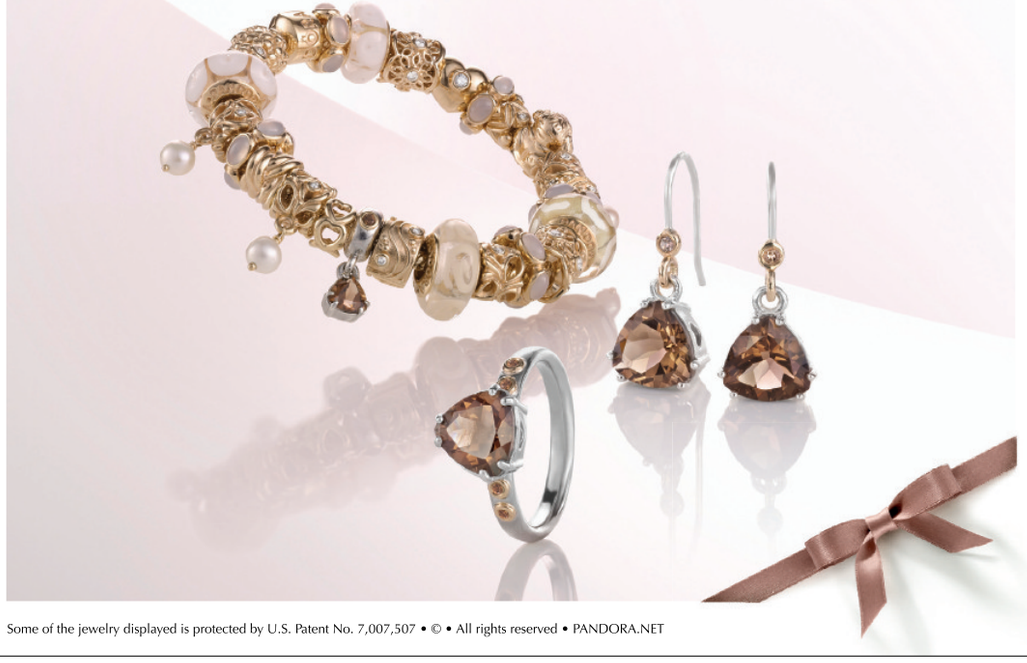

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Landfill could be mined for recyclables

- City hopes to divert 80 per cent of its waste to recycling by 2020
- Pilot program for recycling organics could begin as early as 2012

Waste facts

- Residential waste only accounts for about 30 per cent of what ends up in the waste stream.
- 20 per cent of the municipal solid waste going to the landfill is construction and demolition waste — around 130,000 tonnes per year.
- City tipping fees have increased from $50 per tonne in 2007 to $95 per tonne in 2011.
- The city collects about 200,000 tonnes of waste per year through the garbage-collection program.

KATIE TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

Construction materials that have been buried for nearly two decades could be given new life if the city decides to go through with a proposal to mine an old southeast landfill.

A proposal is on the table to begin extracting potentially recyclable materials from Ogden Landfill — a site that was closed in 1994.

Dave Griffiths, director of waste and recycling services, said the site was a former dumping ground for construction and demolition materials.

"I can tell you that in the history of that site, there was a lot of tonnage that went into that site but a lot of it went in the way of concrete and asphalt and it could be reclaimed for aggregate and taken out."

Griffiths said the idea has yet to move beyond a proposal and no timeline has been put in place as of yet.

Although in the early stages, Ald. Druh Farrell said she thinks it's a logical idea.

"I think we're going back to that idea that we shouldn't be producing waste as a society, we should be figuring out ways to use this so it just makes sense."

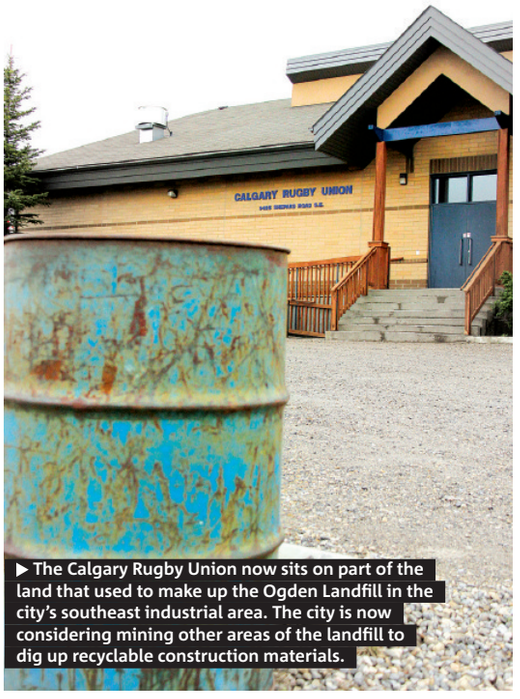
INDUSTRY RECYCLING A PRIORITY

With residential recycling well underway in Calgary, a city committee is now looking at how it can curb commercial and industry waste.

Approximately 50 per cent, or 314,500 tonnes per year, of the waste entering city landfills is generated by industrial, commercial and institutional activities.

Moving forward, the city plans to engage those in the recycling services industry to develop a waste-diversion strategy.

KATIE TURNER/METRO



▶ The Calgary Rugby Union now sits on part of the land that used to make up the Ogden Landfill in the city's southeast industrial area. The city is now considering mining other areas of the landfill to dig up recyclable construction materials.

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CRIME

Court rejects Svekla's appeal

A violent Alberta sex abuser turned murderer has failed to get his conviction overturned for killing a prostitute, trussing her body in metal wire and hauling it around in his pickup truck.

Alberta's Court of Appeal, in a written decision, rejected Thomas Svekla's argument that the trial judge made inferences and leaps of logic unsupported by the evidence to convict Svekla of the second-degree murder of Theresa Innes.

The Appeal Court said yesterday the trial judge did not look at just one piece of the puzzle, but instead came to a proper conclusion after looking at all of the circumstantial evidence.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Schools to get upgrades

The province announced yesterday two Calgary schools will be getting major facelifts. Students at Notre Dame High School and Chinook Learning Services will see their current portable classrooms replaced with permanent ones. METRO

Pipeline restarted

Part of a key oil pipeline in Northern Alberta is back in service after wildfires prompted a 10-day outage.

Plains Midstream Canada restarted the southern leg of its Rainbow pipeline yesterday afternoon.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tapping into the sun

KATIE TURNER/METRO

▶ Shifra Di Battista says if the solar-powered crosswalk project is not approved, her community association will be forced to cover the cost of a traditional system for an intersection near Douglasdale School.

Two aldermen to bring proposal for solar-powered crosswalk markers

JEREMY NOLAIS
@METRONEWS.CA

Long-standing needs for crosswalks in certain Calgary communities could soon be solved with a little sunshine.

Aldermen Shane Keating and Peter Demong are putting together an application for a pilot project that would test solar-powered crosswalk markers in the city.

"With technology the way it is, we should be embracing a lot of these things," Keating said.

The Douglasdale Glen Community Association is certainly in favour of trying the new devices. If the project is approved, Keating has proposed installing a solar crosswalk marker at an intersection near Douglasdale School.

Association president Shifra Di Battista said parents with kids enrolled in the kindergarten to Grade 4 institution have long expressed fears about the busy intersection, adding she was aware of one situation where a child was hit by a vehicle and thrown 30 feet.

"We didn't ask to be put on the pilot list, but we are very pleased that we are because we need something there," Di Battista said.

Typically, installation of a current crosswalk system costs $100,000. Keating said solar-powered models can be purchased for just a tenth of that.

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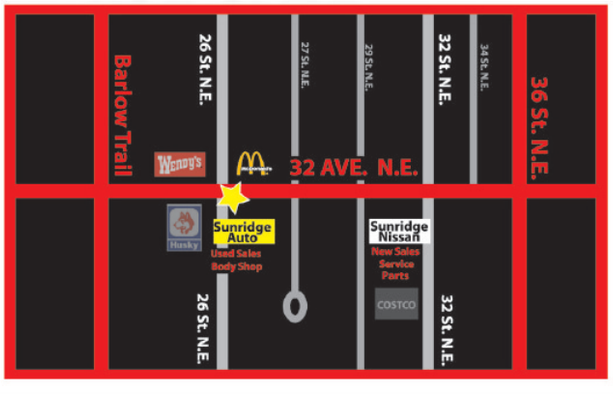

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50 BEST MANAGED COMPANIES

HEATHER MCINTYRE/METRO

▶ Jeff Sveen, founder of playgolfalberta.com, right, is joined by two-time RE/MAX world long-drive champion Jamie Sadlowski and Christina Lecuyer, two-time participant in The Big Break, at yesterday's website launch.

Click — it's tee time

Forty courses will be on website playgolfalberta.com by June 1

HEATHER MCINTYRE
@METRONEWS.CA

Booking a tee time at one of the many golf courses in Alberta can now be done with the click of a computer mouse.

While many golf clubs allow online tee time booking on their own websites, playgolfalberta.com is different.

It allows golfers to browse multiple courses at once.

"It just eliminates phone calls to five, six different courses," said founder Jeff Sveen during an official launch yesterday at Redtail Landing Golf Club in Edmonton.

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So why would City Council privatize park maintenance? Especially strange since they've experimented with it before, and it failed. Private contractors weren't able to do all the work — so it was just left undone. The results: poorly maintained parks and no taxpayer savings. And city workers had to redo the work.

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Police to speed up security checks

Calgary's police are actively working through a "backlog" of background checks on local volunteers and new measures are being implemented to streamline the process.

Metro reported last month that many local hockey organizations were still waiting for police confirmation that coaches had completed their screenings despite the season already being over.

Public Safety Minister Vic Toews says the RCMP's new Real-Time Identification system will speed that process along.

"I am pleased to highlight the RCMP's efforts to develop and implement this technology solution, which … will help reduce these important verification wait times from months to, at the most, a few weeks," he said.

Calgary police will also introduce additional Live-scan devices for fingerprinting, and will soon allow volunteer checks at district offices.

JEREMY NOLAIS

100,000
The Calgary Police Service performs approximately 100,000 security checks on volunteers annually.

B.C. sends 70 more firefighters to Alberta

Another 70 B.C. firefighters are heading to northern Alberta, marking B.C.'s largest single deployment of resources to another province.

A total of 611 firefighters have now gone to Hinton, Alta., to help battle raging wildfires.

Costs for the ongoing deployment will be covered by the Alberta government under an agreement that allows for the movement of firefighting resources across Canada.

British Columbia Forests Minister Steve Thomson says the fire danger rating in B.C. remains low, allowing the province to support Alberta.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

Crash pilot identified

DEATH. A helicopter pilot who died Friday when his aircraft crashed into Slave Lake has been identified.

Dead is Jean-Luc Deba, 54, of Montreal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stars to recall their teens

CALGARY. Mayor Naheed Nenshi will draw on some star power, with the likes of Robyn Regehr and Michelle Cameron leading the charge, in the city-wide Meet a Hero campaign.

They'll reach out to junior high school students and talk about their life as teens.

METRO

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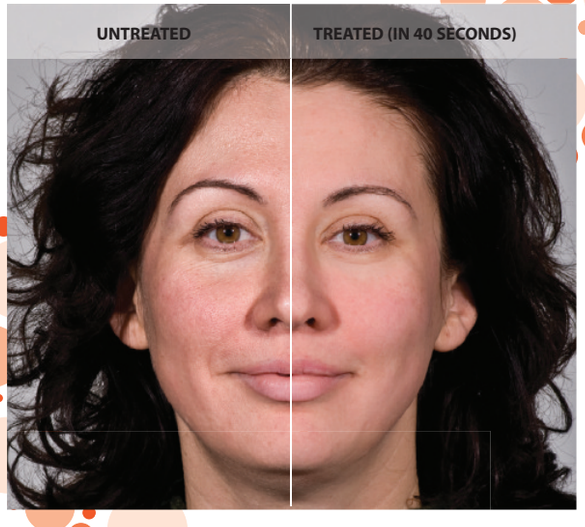
90-DAY MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE 90



None of these images were retouched. Nanoblur was applied on one side of the face for comparison to the untreated side. The candidates were not wearing makeup and no special lighting was used. These half-face studies show true results of Nanoblur on these subjects.

SHOPPERS DRUG MART™ Rexall™MC nanoblur.com

Our smart bombs rain on Libya

Military says Canada's jets dropped 240 laser-guided missiles

Canadian warplanes have dropped 240 laser-guided bombs on Libyan targets since March 31, the military says.

But the Canadian Forces won't reveal two other key aspects of the country's mission in Libya.

The questions:

What's the cost to taxpayers of those 227-kilogram bombs?

What's the price tag for the Libya mission to date?

Brig.-Gen. Richard Blanchette revealed the number of bombs in the weekly briefing on Canada's participation in the NATO-led air campaign.

Just a week earlier, he deemed that information off limits for "operational security" reasons.

NDP Leader Jack Layton said the time has come for the government to come clean on the dirty details of Canada's participation in the United Nations-sanctioned international military campaign to protect civilians from attacks by their leader, Moammar Gadhafi.

Layton called yesterday for a full debate, with Canada's participation about to enter its third month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Military silence

- The UN-backed mission began as an effort to protect civilians but has since morphed into a ferocious assault on Tripoli targets.
- The Canadian military won't say whether Canadian pilots are part of the stepped-up air offensive.

RODRIGO ABD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Machine guns hang from a tree as rebels rest in a makeshift military camp near Misrata, Libya, yesterday.

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Sportage EX Luxury shown

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CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM $21,645‡

HWY: 6.9L/100KM (41 MPG)
CITY: 10.0L/100KM (28 MPG)

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Sorento EX-V6 Luxury shown

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Offers available for a limited time and subject to change without notice. *Bonus in 6 monthly installments of $10 will be credited to the chatr account. Offer available at these advertised locations only. ©2011

G8 leaders warned: Don't restrict Internet freedom

More than 60 countries, and growing, have some form of Internet censorship in place: Activist

Internet activists and digital entrepreneurs warned yesterday that if global leaders attempt to limit access to the web, their restrictions will be bypassed and they will become irrelevant.

The stark message adds to growing resistance — from big-name companies like Google and Twitter to anonymous Internet vigilantes who have attacked government censorship networks — against creeping laws that might one day restrict services many users now take for granted.

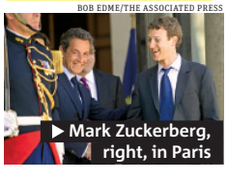
The leaders of the Group of Eight most powerful countries begin meeting in France today to discuss issues of global concern in the wake of the Arab uprisings that have been described as the first Internet-enabled revolutions.

"G8 governments should say very clearly for once that Internet access is a fundamental human right," said Jean-Francois Julliard, who heads free speech group Reporters Without Borders.

Tony Wang, Twitter's general manager for Europe, said attempts to crack down on free expression are self-defeating. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Facebook or not

BOB EDME/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

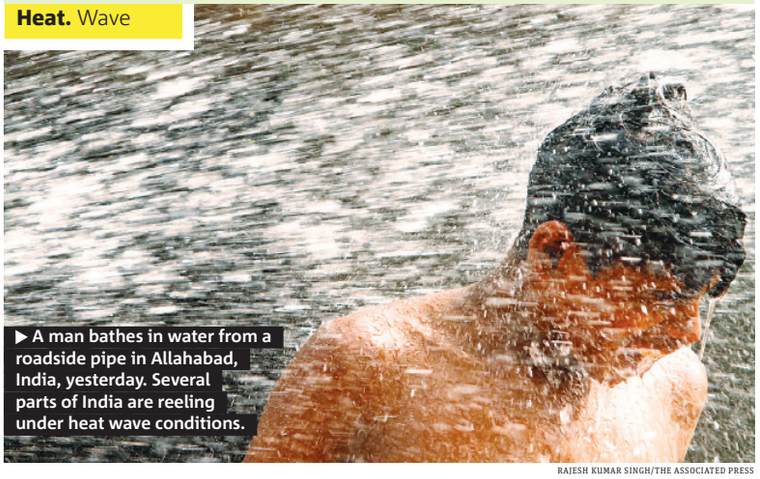


▶ Mark Zuckerberg, right, in Paris

Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg has played down the importance of the social networking website for the popular revolutions that toppled presidents in Egypt and Tunisia.

- Zuckerberg says the wave of protests against autocratic governments sweeping through the Arab world could have been organized using other websites.
- The 27-year-old says "it would be extremely arrogant for any specific technology company to claim any meaningful role."

Heat. Wave



▶ A man bathes in water from a roadside pipe in Allahabad, India, yesterday. Several parts of India are reeling under heat wave conditions.

RAJESH KUMAR SINGH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Keeping a cool head in India

Young dialing into smartphones

Younger users are driving the growing adoption of smartphones and mobile technology in Canada, suggests a report to be released today by the Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association.

The industry group commissioned a survey of more than 2,000 mobile users over a two-week period in March to assess the state of the industry and how much mobile users are paying attention to new technologies.

The group said younger users especially are ditching their older cellphones for smartphones like BlackBerrys, iPhones and Google Android phones. While only 33 per cent of all those surveyed said they had a smartphone, 48 per cent of 18- to 34-year-old users had a smartphone and 55 per cent of 18- to 24-year-olds had already upgraded. THE CANADIAN PRESS

25M The group estimates there are now more than 25-million mobile users in Canada.

News in brief

Rae named Grit interim leader

OTTAWA. Bob Rae has been chosen as interim leader of the devastated federal Liberal party.

The Toronto MP and former Ontario NDP leader will fill the role until a permanent successor to Michael Ignatieff is elected. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Coyote cull

HALIFAX. More than 2,600 coyotes were killed during the first year of Nova Scotia's $20-per-pelt bounty hunt on the animals, about 900 more than the year before.

The animals have been showing up in more populated areas in recent years. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

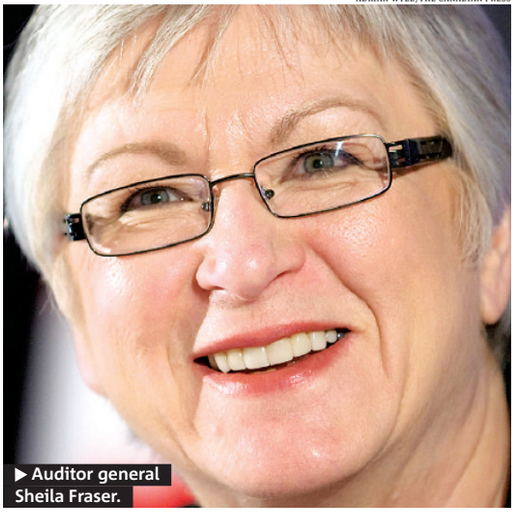
Layton admits he can't save per-vote party subsidies

OTTAWA. Opposition Leader Jack Layton says a Conservative government plan to phase out $2-per-vote subsidies is wrong, but it's something political parties will have to live with. The Tories are intent to start erasing the subsidies with next month's budget, to be delivered June 6. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

AG out with a bang

Retiring auditor general Sheila Fraser delivers warnings Interim AG will be named next week

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Auditor general Sheila Fraser.

Auditor general Sheila Fraser delivered a farewell address yesterday in typical blunt-spoken fashion — warning government to start counting the costs of climate change and addressing the "quite tragic" living conditions of First Nations peoples.

Fraser's eventful, politically charged 10-year term as auditor general ends on Monday.

While the bespectacled, matronly 60-year-old said she believes retired auditors general should "sort of fade away," she made sure to leave with a bang.

In a luncheon speech to hundreds of Ottawa power brokers and bureaucrats, Fraser said Canada has to start measuring the massive, long-term financial hurdles of the future.

"With our aging population, the far-reaching impact of climate change and the need to replace much of our infrastructure, Canadians need to better understand the challenges ahead and how the public purse will be managed," she said.

Many other countries and several provinces, she said, provide long-term financial projections looking up to 75 years into the future. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Watchdog

- Auditor general Sheila Fraser is legendary for blowing the lid off the sponsorship scandal under the Chretien Liberals, famously stating in 2002 that civil servants "broke just about every rule in the book."
- She was the third "most trusted Canadian" in a Readers Digest poll published this month (behind David Suzuki and building contractor Mike Holmes).

Hope for more Joplin survivors

Rescue and recovery work in Joplin, Mo., was shadowed by uncertainty yesterday as rescue crews went back over areas that had already been searched and engineers entered a battered hospital where the tornado killed five to see if the building can be salvaged.

The National Weather Service said the mighty twister on Sunday was an EF5, the strongest rating assigned to tornadoes, with winds of more than 322 km/h.

The city manager said yesterday that 125 people had died in the storm, raising by three the toll of the nation's deadliest single tornado since 1950. He said more than 900 people had been injured.

Officials say they hope to find more survivors after two people were rescued from the rubble Tuesday.

Police required residents and workers to have city-issued permits in order to drive in damaged areas. Structural engineers went into the nine-story St. John's Regional Medical Center to see whether it could be saved.

"It truly was like a bomb went off," chief executive Gary Pulsipher said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

100M

School officials have vowed to be ready for classes to start as scheduled on Aug. 17, despite having four schools destroyed and an estimated $100 million in damage.

▶ Darren Braker uses an axe to break through the floor of a doctor's office yesterday with the aid of Jesse Braker, centre, and Brent Luthi after a massive tornado passed through Joplin, Mo., killing more than 120 people. The young men were attempting to help a local family physician retrieve patient records from a basement office.

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JULIE DENESHA/GETTY IMAGES

Tornado warnings help prevent disaster

- Second powerful storm system this week descends on central U.S.
- 'Take cover now!' warned Oklahoma City TV forecasters

Thousands of Oklahoma City residents in the path of three approaching tornadoes benefited from good forecasts, luck and live television to avoid the kind of catastrophe that befell other U.S. cities.

Even though more than a dozen people died in the latest round of violent weather, schools and offices closed early, giving many families plenty of time to take shelter. And even stragglers were able to get to safety at the last minute because TV forecasters narrated the twisters' every turn.

"We live in Oklahoma and we don't mess around," Lori Jenkins of Guthrie said after emerging from a neighbour's storm shelter to find her carport crumpled and her home damaged.

The people of Oklahoma City, which has been struck by more tornadoes than any other U.S. city, knew the storms were coming. Anxiety was perhaps running higher than usual after last month's twister outbreak in the South that killed more than 300 people and a Sunday storm that killed at least 122 in Joplin, Mo.

Television helicopters broadcast live footage while the system approached the metropolitan area of 1.2-million people — calling out to specific communities like Piedmont to "Take cover now!"

Forecasters said another line of severe storms could sweep through the nation's midsection yesterday, mainly east of Oklahoma.

A tornado warning was briefly issued for downtown Kansas City, Mo., and at least two weak tornadoes touched down in or near the suburbs.

A few others were reported in Illinois. The storms were expected to move into western Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi.

Back in the Oklahoma City area, at least nine people were killed, including a 15-month-old boy, and searchers were looking for his missing three-year-old brother.

Across the border in Arkansas, people in the tiny hamlet of Denning didn't have the luxury of an early warning. A tornado killed at least one person there. Storms left three others dead elsewhere in Arkansas and killed two in Kansas.

The storms arrived in Denning in the darkness, with a warning posted only about 10 minutes before a tornado nearly obliterated the town of 270.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pope prays for Joplin

Pope Benedict XVI yesterday assured survivors of the massive tornado in Joplin, Mo., that he was close to them spiritually and praying for hope and strength for the homeless.

"The Holy Father has followed with deep concern the aftermath of the catastrophic tornado which struck Joplin on Sunday," read a text of a telegram sent to the local bishop in Missouri and made public by the Vatican.

Benedict said he was asking God to grant "eternal rest to the departed, consolation to the grieving, and strength and hope to the homeless and the injured.

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Protest. March

▶ Nepalese police officers stand behind a sign that reads "restricted area" during a march by Nepal's National Democratic Party toward the Constituent Assembly building in Katmandu yesterday.

GEMUNU AMARASINGHE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Extension rejected

Nepal's pro-monarch National Democratic Party is demanding that the term of the Constituent Assembly not be extended and fresh elections be held.

Kids killed in Syrian crackdown?

Opposition group identifies one child who died under 'severe torture'

More than 25 children, some of them tortured, are among the victims of the Syrian government's deadly crackdown on an uprising that has killed more than 1,000 people over the past two months, an opposition group said yesterday.

The Local Co-ordination Committees in Syria, which helps organize the protests against President Bashar Assad, identified the children and the circumstances of their death. Syria has blocked media access in the country, making it impossible to verify the reports independently.

The children ranged in age from five to 17. Many appeared to have been killed in crossfire, such as Mahmood Alkadree, 12, who was struck by four bullets when he went out to buy bread for his family in the Damascus suburb of Douma, the statement said.

The body of 15-year-old Ahmad Radwan was found in the orchards of the coastal town of Banias, shot once in the stomach and once in the chest.

Majd Ibrahim Alrfaee, a seven-year-old girl from the southern province of Daraa, died from a gunshot to the abdomen, the report said.

The statement said that 13-year-old Saleh Ahmad Alkhateeb was kidnapped by security forces on April 29 in Daraa, only to be found dead the next day "covered with the effects of severe torture."

Assad appears determined to crush the revolt, which is posing the most serious challenge to his family's 40-year ruling dynasty.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Shooting suspect ruled mentally unfit for trial

- Arizona rampage wounded Giffords
- Loughner's 'angry' outburst in court results in officials dragging him out

The man accused of wounding U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords and killing six in a shooting rampage in Arizona is mentally incompetent to stand trial, a judge ruled yesterday after two deputy marshals dragged the man out of the courtroom because of an angry outburst.

As survivors of the deadly January attack looked on, Jared Lee Loughner lowered his head, raised it and said what sounded like, "Thank you for the freak show. She died in front of me."

His words were loud but indistinct, and it wasn't clear who he was talking about. He wore a khaki prison suit and sported bushy, reddish sideburns.

"Thank you for the freak show. She died in front of me."

JARED LEE LOUGHNER'S LOUD BUT INDISTINCT WORDS HEARD IN COURT

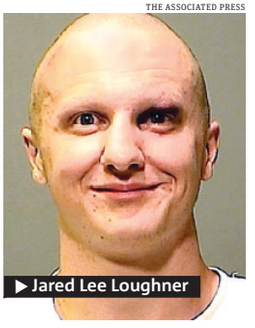
U.S. District Judge Larry Burns' decision means the 22-year-old will be sent to back to a federal facility in Missouri for up to four months, where doctors will try to medicate him to see if they can restore his competency to a point where he understands the case against him.

The ruling came after Burns said two mental-health professionals had concluded Loughner suffers from schizophrenia and is mentally unfit for trial.

Loughner spent five weeks at a federal facility in Springfield, Mo. The judge said neither expert thought Loughner was faking his mental-health problems.

Loughner has pleaded not guilty to 49 federal charges stemming from the Jan. 8 shooting at a meet-and-greet event that wounded Giffords and 12 others and killed six people, including a nine-year-old girl and a federal judge. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Jared Lee Loughner

Flooded Quebecers vent frustrations

Residents of the flood region near Montreal are venting their frustration at the federal government's handling of the crisis.

Their complaint? The Canadian Forces arrived too late, appeared unprepared, began withdrawing too early and, now, are failing to help with the cleanup.

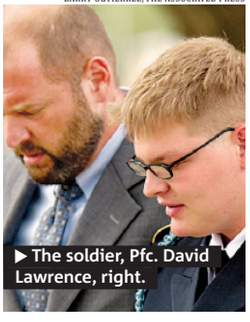
About 3,000 homes have been flooded and 1,000 people have been evacuated as flood waters have risen and dropped. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

U.S. soldier sent to jail

A U.S. soldier with mental-health problems has been sentenced to 12 years in military prison after pleading guilty to killing a suspected Taliban prisoner in his jail cell.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BARRY GUTIERREZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ The soldier, Pfc. David Lawrence, right.

Amazon activist slain in Brazil

An activist fighting to protect the Amazon rainforest from loggers was shot and killed with his wife, Brazilian officials said.

The killings of Jose Claudio Ribeiro da Silva and his wife occurred just hours before legislators passed a bill environmentalists warned will increase deforestation in the region.

About 1,150 people have been killed in disputes over preserving land.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG?

HE SAYS ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE
METRO

I have a stunning secret to reveal about cars and bicycles: *They're controlled by people.*

Weird, huh? It sounds Soylent Green, but it's true. If you look closely and aren't blinded by anger, you might even see a "cyclist" or "driver" yourself.

This little-known nugget must be revealed because I have bought a bicycle. I haven't ridden it yet because the shop is adding all the doodads needed in the modern urban cycling environment — pre-made legal forms, James Bond-style nail strip, basket with a flower on the front — but soon I'll be a cyclist.

In other words, I'm about to get a new perspective on the long-running feud that is Cars vs. Bikes. (Note the dehumanifying.)

What has always amazed me about this conflict is that the vast majority of people have both biked and driven cars. Everybody is on both sides. Yet to hear the "discussion" you would assume it was two different species that only ever contact each other on North America's roadways.

"My theory is that each group has an Idiot Quotient that ends up dominating the discussion; we literally remember the hits and forget the misses."

Why? My theory is that each group has an Idiot Quotient that ends up dominating the discussion; we literally remember the hits and forget the misses.

The worst cyclists, for instance, seem to compensate for their small carbon footprint by taking up as much roadway as possible. They also have a sort of persecution complex, where they see every open car door as an attempt to injure. And while I have some tolerance for bikes on sidewalks, it's unacceptable to barrel down a sidewalk like Fred Flintstone stuck in his runaway Stoneway piano yelling, "Make way!"

The worst drivers, meanwhile, start complaining about The War on the Car if anything slows them down, including inertia. Never mind that they can get home faster than any human in history. If a Star Trek transporter beam existed and a three-minute delay could save the Alpha Quadrant, people would rant about The War on the Beam and how it's their right to use the fastest, space-time continuum-tearingest transporter available.

So I get it: Some of the anger on both sides is justified. But as someone with both a driver's licence and a bicycle, I say it's time for a new era.

After all, are we not human? If you scratch our vehicles, do we not curse and try to remove it with our thumb? If you wrong us, shall we not give you the finger and say, "Can you believe that guy?"

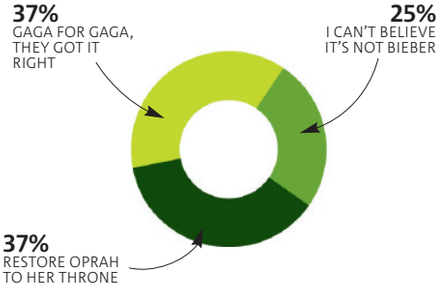
We must put aside our differences, stop stereotyping each other and remember our shared, common goal: Hatred of pedestrians. Those people are idiots, am I right?

Read more of John Mazerolle's columns at metronews.ca/hesays

metro life panel

Register at metrolifepanel.ca and take the quick poll

What do you think of Lady Gaga dethroning Oprah Winfrey as the most powerful celebrity in the world, according to Forbes?



Local tweets

- **@alwaysonmym1nd:** I think it s/b be a law that smokers have to smoke inside their car, house or only designated areas where non-smokers won't be affected #yyc
- **@Aisling_HkyMom:** Lookin' nice + green at @CalgaryVipers field for home opener tomorrow. Here's hoping the rain stops so we can enjoy it :) #yyc
- **@WeebDaCat:** Broke through the clouds 1,000 feet above the ground ... Good thing we didn't land on that guy's house! Actually, @WestJet was flawless! #yyc
- **@itwassofluffy:** Snowfall warning in #yyc you gotta be kidding me
- **@BrodeurNJ30:** Hey #yyc. Be thankful it's just rain not snow or a tornado or a fire ripping apart the city. #StopComplaining
- **@shannonfranks:** Death Cab and Bright Eyes tonight in #YYC. Good Times ...
- **@d2cphotography:** Hate to say this, but #YEG folkfest lineup smokes #YYC Can't wait to see Wanda Jackson.

Worth mentioning

LONDON. Canada has cracked the Top 10 in a global security assessment that ranks countries based on how peaceful they are.

The Global Peace Index ranked Canada eighth out of 153 countries, a six-spot jump over last year.

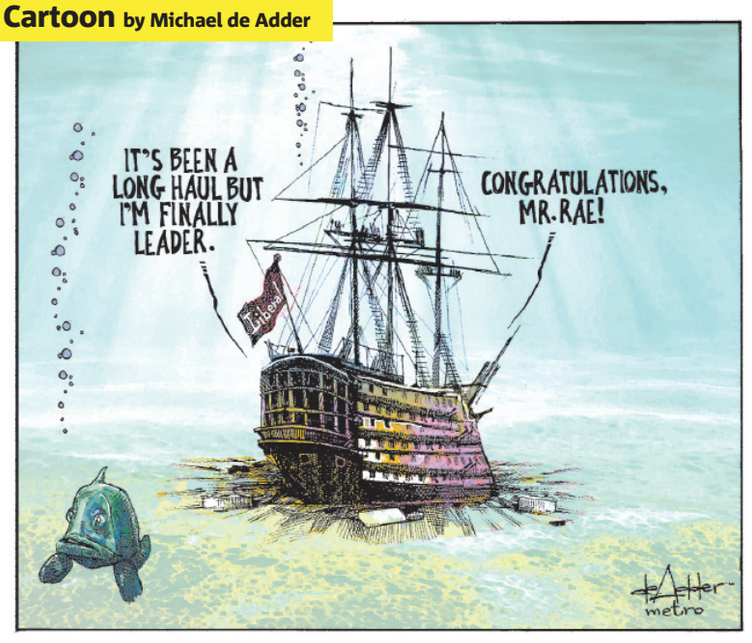
The index, produced by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), suggests North America overall has improved slightly thanks in part to Canada's rise in the rankings. The United States was 82nd, compared to 85th last year. The index says if the U.S. reduced its violent crime rates to that of Canada's, the U.S. economy and its state governments could save billions of dollars on correctional services, health care and lost tax revenue.

Iceland regained the top spot after slipping in last year's index following violent demonstrations related to the collapse of its financial system, while Libya tumbled 83 spots to 143 in the largest drop in the index's history.

Overall, the index found the world is less peaceful for the third straight year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cartoon by Michael de Adder



WEIRD NEWS

Margaritaville has moved to a Mexican prison

Some prisoners learn woodworking or licence-plate making. But bartending?

A prison workshop in northern Mexico, where inmates were supposed to be learning trades, was found to contain a bar behind bars — complete with beer, vodka, tequila and billiard tables.

Federal police and local authorities discovered the bar Monday at a minimum-security prison in the northern state of Chihuahua, the state attorney general's office said in a statement.

Seized from the site were 20 bottles of vodka, 12 bottles of tequila, and 200 beer cans. Police also found three guns, 20 cellphones, 180 individual doses of marijuana and 90 doses of heroin.

The prison's deputy director was fired yesterday and prison guards are under investigation, said Jorge Chaires, a spokesman for the state's prosecutor for prisons.

Also yesterday, guards conducting a routine check at a prison in the northern state of Tamaulipas discovered 17 inmates missing, the state's Public Safety Department said in a statement. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metro

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Hacking victims blasé with Sony

Little fallout expected among people Complaints centre on entertainment giant's communication

David Campbell found out yesterday morning he was one of 2,000 Sony Ericsson customers from Canada whose personal data had been stolen and posted online for anyone to see.

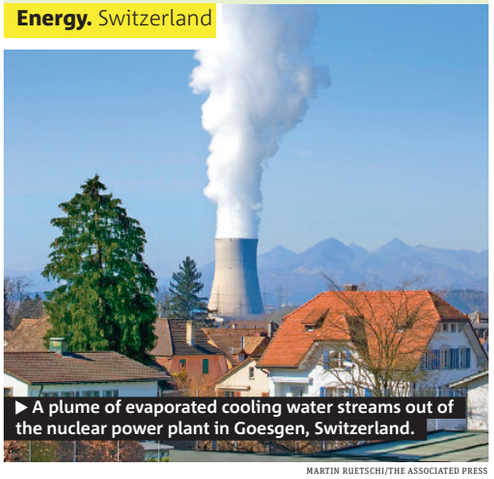
He's been through a case of online fraud before and is resigned to the fact that information stored on the web is at risk. So he wasn't overly concerned to learn that his name and email were being shared by hackers. But he doesn't appreciate that Sony didn't alert him to the latest security breach to hit the entertainment giant.

"I guess (the data breach) is disappointing but in this modern day you'd probably be a little foolish to think that anything's safe," said Campbell, who works with the Stratford Shakespeare Festival.

Sony has been hit with a number of hacker attacks in recent weeks, the most notable coming last month and affecting more than 100-million accounts of PlayStation Network and Qriocity users. Names, birth dates, email addresses and log-ins were compromised. The company said in a statement issued yesterday that hackers on Sony Ericsson's Canadian site only accessed email addresses and encrypted passwords.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Energy. Switzerland



▶ A plume of evaporated cooling water streams out of the nuclear power plant in Goesgen, Switzerland.

MARTIN RUETSCHI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Swiss mull nuclear plan

The Swiss cabinet yesterday called for the decommissioning of the country's five nuclear power reactors and new energy sources to replace them.

Molson dynasty rules beer giant again

A seventh generation of the Molson family is taking the helm of Molson Coors as the brewer seeks to extend its global reach into emerging countries.

Andrew Molson, 43, becomes chairperson today, replacing Peter Coors as part of the biennial shift between the beer company's founding families.

The change comes as Molson celebrates its 225th anniversary of its entry into the Canadian beer industry.

Molson told shareholders yesterday the company plans to grow international sales of its existing Coors Light, Carling and Molson Canadian brands and pursue acquisitions.

Its international division grew beer volume by 27 per cent in 2010.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BARGAINING TABLE

Post office won't shut this week

Canada Post said yesterday there is enough time to negotiate a "fair and reasonable" settlement with postal workers since there's no potential for a strike this week.

Both sides were back at the table yesterday to continue negotiations aimed avoiding a labour disruption.

"With no potential for a strike this week, there is plenty of time to negotiate a fair and reasonable deal," Canada Post said in a statement.

Under labour laws, each side has to give 72 hours' notice before beginning a strike or lockout.

Canada Post rejected its union's latest contract proposal Tuesday, saying the offer would increase labour costs by $1.4 billion but then made a counter-proposal.

"Even with a continued decline in mail volumes and a $3-billion pension solvency deficit, Canada Post has tabled a competitive counter-offer to CUPW that gives employees better wages and protects their pensions and job security," the Crown corporation said yesterday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar
+ 156.35 (13,751.47)	– 0.19¢ 102.26¢ US
Oil	**Natural gas 1,000 cu ft**
+ $1.73 $101.32 US	$4.423 (+ 3.2¢)
	Gold contracts
	$3.40 US (+ $1,526.70)

Abrupt exit for Tim Hortons CEO

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Tim Hortons ex-president and CEO Donald Schroeder.

Tim Hortons is hiring — Canada's No. 1 coffee chain is looking for a new leader after the abrupt departure of its CEO. The company announced yesterday that Don Schroeder, 65, no longer serves as president and CEO after three years at the helm and two decades as an employee.

Tim Hortons' board said it believes a change at the top at this time is best for the company. In the meantime, executive chairman Paul House, who has previously held the position of president and CEO, will take on the role on an interim basis.

The board said it was already engaged in comprehensive succession planning for the CEO position as part of its strategic planning.

Tim Hortons did not say why Schroeder was leaving so suddenly, but Brian Yarbrough, a retail analyst at Edward Jones in St. Louis, believes the fact that it could not reach a "transitional arrangement" is key.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Metro now on Android for readers

Metro has become the first Canadian newspaper to launch a free downloadable Android application to offer access to Metro content on the go. The app detects which of Metro's eight Canadian cities you are in.

If you have an Android smart phone and have been itching for a news application, then your wait is over.

METRO

Blockbuster brand plays starring role

Despite hard times, Blockbuster Canada's brand power could make it an attractive acquisition target, even as it closes stores while Canadians increasingly turn to new technology to watch movies.

But industry experts say stores would need to sell a wider variety of merchandise if they want to survive long term. Dish Network bought the U.S. locations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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2 scene

Shake your booty off for Uganda

Bootyfest kicks off this Saturday in support of Ssubi Foundation Get ready for an afternoon of shopping, drinking, eating and entertainment

BIG ROCK BREWERY

▶ Last year's Bootyfest organizers show off their new Bootyfest jeans. From left: Tracy Lee, Karla Petersen, Tara Wilkie and Kelsey Finch.

BACKSTAGE PASS

JENNIFER LARAWAY
METRO CALGARY

Karla Petersen and her team at Big Rock Brewery are debunking one big myth about events and fundraisers — they usually raise as much money as it costs to host them.

But that little fact didn't get in their way three years ago when they first started Bootyfest. Like many good ideas in Calgary, this one came to life after a couple of beverages between Big Rock's Shelagh McNally, Ssubi Foundation's Philip Ndugga and another friend who owned a jean company.

Bootyfest

Ssubi means "hope" in Ugandan.

- **The first event** aimed to raise $5,000 but netted more than $30,000.
- **More than 500 people** are expected to attend this year's event.

Ndugga was sharing how he needed to raise funds ASAP for an upcoming trip to Uganda where he was going to build a school. McNally took it on as a challenge.

"Initially we thought we could sell some beer and jeans and donate the money to Ssubi," explains Petersen. "We only had three weeks to get this party organized."

How things have changed. The annual event, which is aimed at eradicating poverty in Uganda through The Ssubi Foundation, now is planned a few months in advance and offers Calgarians one bootylicious time. For $50, you get an afternoon of shopping, drinking, eating and entertainment.

While Frankie Joe Rukundo, DJ Wes and Andrea Wettestein entertain the crowd with their musical talents, guests get to snap up the exclusive deals (with drink in hand — and let's face it, there's no better way to shop) from Empire Collection and Ginger Laurier. Once you find that perfect pair of jeans, slap them on in the dressing room and get ready to shake your booty!

The whole thing is going down at Big Rock Brewery (5555-76 Ave.) on Saturday, May 28 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Get your tickets at the door or go online at store.bigrockbeer.com/events.

Wedding bells

Another hoops star will join the Kardashian clan. People magazine reported yesterday that reality star Kim Kardashian is engaged to her boyfriend of six months, New Jersey Nets forward Kris Humphries.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stephen King says creative differences are solved, musical written with Mellencamp is ready. Scan code for story.

Movie reviews See it twice ●●●●● | See it now ●●●● | Worth watching ●●● | Yawn ●● | Don't bother ●

Second time, not quite as good as first

The Hangover: Part II
Genre: Comedy
Director: Todd Phillips
Stars: Bradley Cooper, Zach Galifianakis, Ed Helms
●●●

Todd Philips' blockbuster The Hangover most definitely captured lightning in a bottle. But the clever premise that made stars out of Bradley Cooper and Zach Galifianakis also shows that unfortunately lightning rarely strikes twice.

It's not that The Hangover: Part II isn't without its funny moments. From a scene-stealing capuchin monkey to a revealing encounter involving transvestites in a seedy Bangkok strip club, there are plenty of laughs. But because Philips closely copies the structure of the 2009 hit, the gags are less surprising and the mystery-formula plot less effective.

Due to its nature, there's no point in summarizing plot specifics other than to say the boys head to Thailand for Stu's (Ed Helms) upcoming wedding and end up losing the bride's young brother, crossing paths with a gangster (Paul Giamatti) and taking guardianship of an old monk. Even if those gags don't resonate as much as the original film, fans should still be entertained enough living through another Hangover.

STEVE GOW

Kung Fu Panda 2
Genre: Animation
Director: Jennifer Yuh Nelson
Stars: Jack Black, Angelina Jolie, Gary Oldman
●●●½

There's no reason for movies about nauseatingly cute CGI animals battling in kung fu to be as entertaining as the Kung Fu Panda series, but Dreamworks Animation has stumbled onto a magic formula that's now produced a sequel on par with the original.

Kung Fu Panda 2 returns to Jack Black's big bellied panda who must now use the skills he acquired in the first film to take on a devious peacock (Gary Oldman) who plans to take over China and destroy kung fu, while also trying to find his real parents.

The balance between thrills, humour, and heart feels even more effective in Jennifer Yuh Nelson's sequel, but don't expect the depth of a Pixar movie. The Kung Fu Panda series is more about giddy entertainment.

PHIL BROWN

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FOR THURS., MAY. 26 FOR MOVIES OPENING THAT DAY. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

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91 Crowfoot Terrace, 403-547-3316

The Hangover Part II (18A) No Passes Thu 1:05-1:30-3:50-4:20-7:05-7:35-10-10:30
Kung Fu Panda 2 (G) No Passes Thu 1:35-4:05-6:40-9:10
Kung Fu Panda 2 3D (G) No Passes Thu 1:15-4:10-7:45-10:15

EAU CLAIRE MARKET
200 Barlay Parade, 403-263-3166

The Hangover Part II (18A) No Passes Thu 7:10-9:50

EMPIRE STUDIO 16 COUNTRY HILLS
388 Country Hills Blvd., 403-686-8491

The Hangover Part II (18A) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:50-1:30-2-4:15-4:30-4:50-7:7:30-8-9:30-10
Kung Fu Panda 2 (G) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:20-3:40-7:15-9:30
Kung Fu Panda 2 3D (G) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:40-3-6:45-9

EMPIRE STUDIO 10 MACLEOD TRAIL
100-16061 MacLeod Trail, 403-974-0470

The Hangover Part II (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:30-2-4:15-4:45-7:15-7:45-10:15-10:45
Kung Fu Panda 2 (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:45-3:30-6:30-9
Kung Fu Panda 2 3D (G) Digital Presentation, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Thu 1:15-4-7-9:30

SCOTIABANK CHINOOK
6455 MacLeod Trail, 403-212-8994

The Hangover Part II (18A) No Passes Thu 11:20-2-4:40-7:25-10:15 No Passes Thu 1:20-4-7-9:50 No Passes Thu 12-2:40-5:10-7:50-10:40
Kung Fu Panda 2 (G) No Passes Thu 1:10-4:10-7:05-9:35
Kung Fu Panda 2 3D (G) No Passes Thu 12:10-2:45-5:05-7:35-10:10

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The Hangover Part II (18A) No Passes Thu 12:05-12:25-12:45-2:50-3:05-3:25-6:55-7:25-7:50-9:40-10:20-10:30
Kung Fu Panda 2 (G) No Passes Thu 12:55-3:30-7:05-9:35
Kung Fu Panda 2 3D (G) No Passes Thu 11:55-2:30-5-7:40-10:05

WESTHILLS 10
165 Stewart Green, 403-246-5291

The Hangover Part II (18A) No Passes Thu 5:30-6:15-8-8:40
Kung Fu Panda 2 3D (G) No Passes Thu 5:50-7:50

Oprah says her goodbyes

Oprah Winfrey walked on stage for her talk show finale yesterday to a standing ovation from her studio audience before thanking her viewers for watching for a quarter of a century.

"Twenty-five years and I'm still saying 'Thank you America,"' Winfrey said. "Thank you so much. There are no words to match this moment."

Winfrey told them that sometimes she was a teacher, but more often her viewers taught her. She called the episode her "last class."

The show's first moment was a clip of Winfrey's first show. She taped the last episode of The Oprah Winfrey Show on Tuesday in Chicago.

Winfrey was the only person on stage with little background music and very short flashback clips.

"When she came out, her appearance, the way she stepped on stage and the message she brought about finding yourself, your purpose," said audience member Wanda Nash, 47, of Chicago, an executive assistant and foster parent. "It was all about Oprah."

Winfrey kissed and hugged her longtime partner, Stedman Graham, and made her way through the halls of Harpo Studios, saying goodbye to her staff, audience members said.

Winfrey announced in November 2009 that she would end her popular talk show after 25 years.

Tuesday's taping came a week after Hollywood's A-list and 13,000 fans bid Winfrey farewell during a double-episode extravaganza at Chicago's United Center. They were just a few of the approximately 30,000 guests on the show over 25 years.

The bare-bones final taping had its share of celebrities in the audience including Tyler Perry, Maria Shriver, Suze Orman and Cicely Tyson, but none of them joined Winfrey on stage. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PAUL BEATY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Kimberly Adams of Chicago stands outside Harpo Studios before the final taping of The Oprah Winfrey Show in Chicago, Tuesday. The finale aired yesterday.

Comedians react

Many comedians turned to social media to contemplate a post-Oprah world. Among the notable comments made on Twitter were these:

- "Apparently Oprah is responsible for life on our planet as we know it." - Kevin Nealon.
- "I miss both Oprah and Osama. Is there a way to pair them up for something?" - Michael Ian Black.
- "Oprah Winfrey is so powerful that she had the Rapture postponed until after her final show airs." - Joan Rivers.
- "It seems so unfair! Without Oprah, how are publishers going to continue their cross-fingers/hope-to-win-the-lottery business plan?" - John Hodgman.
- "Jesus will probably be the surprise guest. She got him started." - Paula Poundstone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gaga builds hype for new album

CHARLES SYKES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Lady Gaga is using new ways to promote her new album.

The release of a pop star's album usually comes with the typical cross-marketing splash — strategic magazine covers, a few major TV appearances, and perhaps a cosmetics or fashion deal to remind the public a new project awaits.

Yet the social media-powered blitz connected to this week's drop of Lady Gaga's third album, Born This Way, is bordering on epic, with partnerships ranging from Starbucks to FarmVille, and virtual giveaways of the album's 17 tracks. It also represents the kind of bold, new business model that could help rejuvenate a deflated music industry.

Gaga already had a slew of magazine covers, from Rolling Stone to Vogue, and appeared on every high profile show, from Oprah Winfrey to American Idol to Saturday Night Live, as well as her own HBO concert special.

But she hasn't stopped there. Starbucks — typically home to easy-on-the-ears artists like Emmylou Harris — is selling her album as well as launching a "digital scavenger hunt" for Gaga-inspired goods; Google Chrome debuted a commercial with Gaga with a track from the album; the online fashion outlet Gilt Groupe partnered with Gaga to offer Gaga-inspired clothing and VIP performances; Best Buy is giving away the album to anyone who purchases a mobile phone with a contract; and Zynga, creator of the popular online game FarmVille, created GagaVille, which allowed fans access to exclusive Gaga songs.

As if that wasn't enough, on Monday, Amazon.com sold Born This Way for just 99 cents as a promotion for their new music cloud service, creating a demand so strong it disrupted the online retailing giant's servers for a short time.

And it looks like the campaigns are paying off: Gaga's album is estimated to sell anywhere between a half-million to a million copies when the top album charts are revealed next week.

"It was really about expanding the distribution on this album and going into as many non-traditional retail partnerships and non-traditional marketing partnerships as possible," Gaga's manager, Troy Carter, told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "Just with the diminishing music labels, you want to find quality partners where you know you can reach new audiences and being able to push boundaries as well."

Among the promotions connected with Born This Way is the Disney Mobile Tapulous game Tap Tap Revenge, which gives fans access to the entire album and other content if they buy the game, Born This Way Revenge, for $4.99. It's the first time Tapulous has put out 17 tracks with a game for that price.

Tim O'Brien, vice-president of business development at Disney Mobile, said this was the third deal with Gaga, resulting in the total sale of five million songs so far.

While they've worked with other pop artists with their Tap Tap Revenge app, he said Gaga — who has 10 million followers on Twitter and was recently crowned Forbes' most influential celebrity in part because of her tens of millions of followers online — is an act with unique appeal.

"I've never seen anything as powerful as when Gaga hits her social media channels compared to anyone else that we've worked with," he said. "I've never seen anything like it in terms of how she's utilizing social media."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Editor Gaga

Metro. On Tuesday, May 17, Lady Gaga served as global guest editor-in-chief for Metro papers across the world, including the nine Metro's in Canada. If you missed that edition, go to metronews.ca to catch up.

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Putting the hammer down on kissing Leo

J. Edgar star opens up about his new make out scene with co-star DiCaprio

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Armie Hammer

For his latest film, J. Edgar, Social Network star Armie Hammer faced a new challenge: making out with Leonardo DiCaprio.

"It's the same kind of thing as if you walk onto a set and they hand you a machine gun and (say), 'Shoot this like you know what you're doing.' — You kind of have to go, 'OK, I know what I'm doing,' and you've just got to go for it," Hammer tells Just Jared.

"It wasn't weird — I have never kissed a guy — it's not something I'm going to do in my private life, but at the end of it I was, like, man, there is a lot of weird hype."

One person who is definitely OK with Hammer and DiCaprio locking lips is Hammer's wife, Elizabeth Chambers.

"When I signed on to do the movie, she was thrilled that I just didn't have to kiss another woman," Hammer says of her reaction. METRO

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Talking points

Shriver hires private eye to look at some of the rumours

MORE CHILDREN? Maria Shriver will likely be filing for divorce by the end of the week, according to Entertainment Tonight.

And earlier this week, Radar Online reports, the former California first lady is said to have hired a private investigator to dig into husband Arnold Schwarzenegger's past.

"The investigator will likely look into the claims that he fathered multiple children, outside their marriage," a source says. "Maria has heard the rumors and she wants to find out one way or another, if those claims are true."

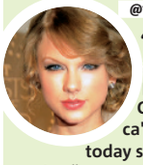
Another person completely caught off guard by news of Arnold Schwarzenegger's love child with former employee Mildred Baena is her ex-husband, Rogelio Baena, who tells Entertainment Tonight he thought the child was his and only learned the truth a week ago. METRO

Celebrity tweets

We all end up on twitter. Welcome!

@GarryShandling

@taylorswift13


"It's the guy who played Chew-baca's birthday today so we made a cake."

@Pink

"this baby just drop kicked me in the ribs. fight fair!"

@joelmchale

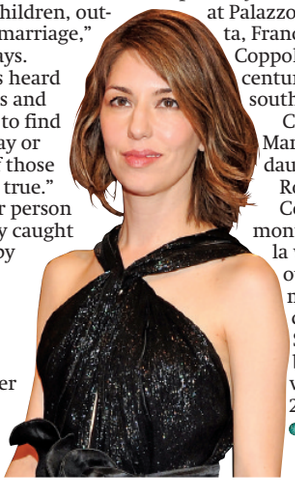
"Saw @johnlegend destroy at the Sony TV event tonight. His voice melted three women that were standing too close. So good."

Coppola getting ready to marry

KISS THE RING? Sofia Coppola is planning to marry her longtime boyfriend and the father of her children, French rocker Thomas Mars, according to Us Weekly.

The happy couple will reportedly exchange vows at Palazzo Margherita, Francis Ford Coppola's 19th century villa in southern Italy.

Coppola and Mars have two daughters: Romy, 4, and Cosima, 23 months. Coppola was previously married to director Spike Jonze, but they divorced in 2003. METRO



Going buck Wilde with Cooper

Just a month after being spotted out with Justin Timberlake, recently divorced Olivia Wilde is reportedly dating Bradley Cooper, according to Life & Style.

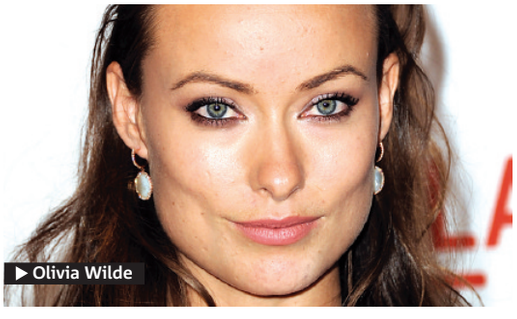
"Olivia was Bradley's date," a source says of the two, who attended the Hangover Part II premiere party in New York together.

"He was always taking her hand or putting his hand on her lower back, it was really sweet. He took care of her all night."

Other attendees of the party concurred with that assessment.

"They were definitely together," adds another source.

"They seemed really comfortable with each other." METRO


▶ Olivia Wilde

ALEJANDRO INGELMO.

FASHION'S FUTURE SOLE STAR

Alejandro Ingelmo is a fourth generation shoe maker who, for the second time, is up for a prestigious CFDA award He likes sci-fi and hates kitten heels.

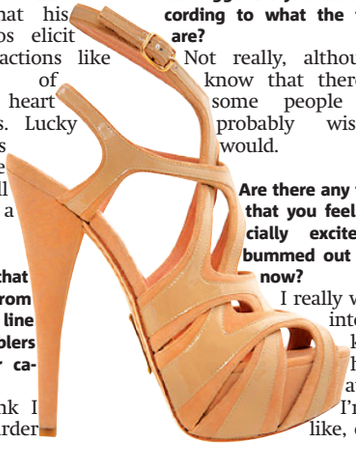
KENYA HUNT
METRO WORLD NEWS

It's warm and humid outside and his London showroom doesn't have air conditioning.

But somehow Alejandro Ingelmo manages to look cool, clean and crisp in his white button-down shirt and tie as he walks me through his collection.

His classic, slightly restrained, retro appearance is a bit deceptive, though. This is a man who makes shoes that ooze sex of the futuristic, rock and roll variety and appeal to mega-celebrities like Beyoncé, Jay-Z, Madonna and Justin Timberlake.

Women who frequent the mecca that is his New York store have claimed that his tall stilettos elicit visceral reactions like shortness of breath and heart palpitations. Lucky for you, his e-commerce shop will launch in a few weeks.



Has the fact that you come from such a long line of shoe cobblers helped your career at all?

Well I think I had a harder time. I went to Parsons and went in a totally different direction from my family. I didn't get any help from them. My dad is proud of me, but he doesn't understand what I do at all [laughs].

Are there any common footwear faux pas that you see on the street that make you wince?

I hate those platform shoes with the see-saw on the bottom. What are they called? They're supposed to get rid of cellulite.

But what's the point of those things? They're so bad, and they're everywhere. And I know you girls like them, but Uggs are just Ugg-ly, OK?

For the record, I'm with you on the Uggs. Do you design according to what the trends are?

Not really, although I know that there are some people who probably wish I would.

Are there any trends that you feel especially excited or bummed out about now?

I really wasn't into the kitten heel at all. I'm like, either make the effort and commit yourself to the high heel or just wear flats.

Learn how to walk in heels or just wear flats, you know? The kitten heel is just not that sexy.

Do you think that shoes should make a woman look sexy?

I like for my shoes to make a woman not only feel sexy, but confident and strong.

And it's the same with my men's shoes. When I wear the shoes, I want to feel sexy in them. I think we all want that.

Speaking of men's, you have a huge sneaker pimps following. The Tron style is especially hot right now. Are you a big sci-fi fan?

Oh yeah. I had the Tron Atari game when I was young.

It's funny because when I opened my store in New York, I thought I'd have all women's and just a little section of men's shoes. But now it's half women's and half men's. It's fun designing for both.

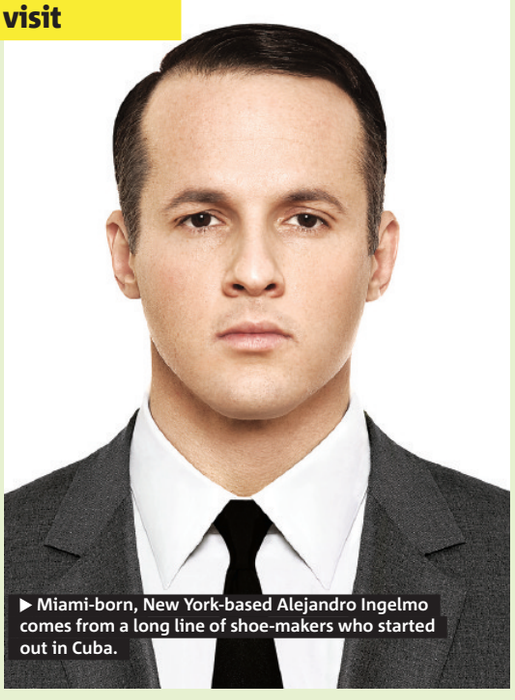
What are some common mistakes that you see women make when they purchase and wear heels?

Well, a lot of them should practice first. Don't buy more height than you can handle. When a woman goes to the store, she should ask about the pitch of the shoe.

That's something that most women don't think to do. But that's what really determines how high the shoe is, it's not so much about the heel. It's all about what's happening inside the shoe. And make sure that the shoe can hold your foot in. You don't want to be walking down the street with your toe slipping out. I think shoes are like clothes; you want to show just the right amount.

When a toe hangs out of the shoe, that's like the footwear equivalent of bad cleavage.

Studio visit



▶ Miami-born, New York-based Alejandro Ingelmo comes from a long line of shoe-makers who started out in Cuba.

3 life

Gay rights

In a human rights campaign video, the Vogue Editor-in-Chief states, "I'm Anna Wintour in support for marriage equality. As far as I'm concerned, having the right to say, 'I do' is as fundamental as the right to vote."

RICHARD PECKETT

Michelle Obama and Duchess of Cambridge bring high style to Buckingham Palace.

When style gets swapped

Can't find what you want in your closet? Browse through your friend's

GRAHAM HUGHES/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

The beginning of a new year was to mark the end of closet clutter for Marci O'Connor.

The Quebec-based mother of two made a resolution to declutter. Having gone through a range of sizes due to weight fluctuations, O'Connor decided to finally get rid of all the garments that no longer fit and were taking up precious real estate in her closet.

But she didn't toss her unwanted items – she took them to her Facebook page.

O'Connor posted photos and descriptions of various items including dresses worn to weddings, unworn shoes as well as pants, shirts and sweaters, offering friends a chance to take their pick and encouraging others seeking to clear out their closet to follow suit.

"The first item was a black leather bag from Rudsak. I think that lasted 20 minutes," she recalled in an interview from Otterburn Park, Que., east of Montreal.

It wasn't long before word of the swap spread among other online users.

"I created a Facebook page just so we could contain it and set up a couple of guidelines and rules and then it exploded," said O'Connor. "I had people from many places throughout North America and even some Europeans who asked if they could join in."

As founder of Suzieswapper, O'Connor, 40, has established a dedicated space for women seeking to talk swap and exchange clothing for free. She estimates some 1,500 swaps have taken place since its launch last year.

Clothing swaps have long appealed to budget-conscious fashionistas seeking stylish new finds for little to no money. But online sites devoted to such trades are helping widen the availability and inventory of preloved goods.

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2 AVEDA

Sun Care Hair and Body Cleanser, $21, aveda.com
This treatment has Morikue protein, which restores vitality to sun, sea and chlorine damaged hair.

3 KORRES

Red Vine Hair Sun Protection Spray $17, korres.com
Save the environment and protect your hair with this protection spray. The vitamin B5 actively hydrates dry hair and leaves a silky texture.

4 BUMBLE AND BUMBLE

Crème de Coco Shampoo $22, bumbleand bumble.com
Crème de Coco makes for an exotic shower experience thanks to both its rich coconut fragrance and its moisturizing qualities.

5 DAVINES

Moisturizing Replenshing shampoo $21, davines.com
Davines' formula of fatty acids, avocado oil and almond effectively removes chlorine residue and revives weakened hair.

6 FRÉDÉRIC FEKKAI

Marine Clean Detox Shampoo $24, fekkai.com Fekkai's marine botanicals actively detox and replenish hair with a UV shield to prevent future fading.

7 KÉRASTASE

Soleil Huile Céleste $37, kerastase.com
The macadamia-infused oil is designed specifically to protect against harmful UV rays.

RICHARD PECKETT

FRESH HOME MAGAZINE/FRESHHOMEIDEAS.COM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Update an old lamp by covering the shade with a DIY design.

FRESH HOME MAGAZINE/FRESHHOMEIDEAS.COM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Use spray paint to easily makeover an old spindle chair.

FRESH HOME MAGAZINE/FRESHHOMEIDEAS.COM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Dress up an old chandelier and chair with a coat of turquoise paint.

Update your old Furniture

Revamping your furniture on a budget can be easy Experts offer a few tips for giving your worn furnishings a second life

For many homeowners, spring has brought the itch for change but not the money to do much about it.

But that doesn't mean you're stuck with Aunt Edna's floral couch another year.

More and more homeowners are rolling up their sleeves and refurbishing tables, chairs and couches themselves, designers say.

"Frugality and practicality are still at the forefront of people's minds right now, so updating and making the best of what you already have is a surefire way to save money and recycle," said Rachael Liska, senior editor at Fresh Home magazine.

It may seem daunting, especially if you're a do-it-yourself newbie, but starting small and taking your time can ease stress or anxiety.

"Think about getting a haircut, jewelry or clothes for yourself. You don't have to completely remake a piece. You can get a lot of bang for your buck, even if you're not super handy," said Danielle Claro, home editor at Real Simple magazine.

Painting

Painting is by far the easiest way to spruce up an old piece of furniture.

A dull pine table can become a sleek modern piece with a coat or two of glossy black paint. Enamel paint is cheap, and spray paints now come in almost any colour you can imagine, and adhere to just about any surface, said Cindy Thomas, editor and owner of Frugalsimplicity.com.

Claro suggested painting a mirror's frame with a glossy colour, or taking an old wooden Windsor chair and sanding it, priming it and coating it with a fresh spring colour like orange or turquoise.

Emily Henderson, host of HGTV's Secrets From A Stylist, offers a strict rule for painting furniture: "If the pieces are over 50 years old, don't do it," she said. "You'll lose the charm and age that makes the piece beautiful."

Staining/waxing

Instead of painting, Henderson suggests stripping and waxing old furniture to bring out the wood's beauty and colour.

Stripping and staining is a bit more work but is still a relatively inexpensive way to change things up while keeping the furniture's original look. Don't choose a stain that's much darker than the natural wood, Henderson said, but "stick in the same tone of wood."

Embellishing/accesorizing

Painting and staining are tried-and-true techniques for updating furniture, but Liska says a fresher take is to try gilding, decoupaging, decal-ing, or embellishing old pieces with materials such as decorative nail heads, leather trim, cording and tassels.

Reupholstering

Reupholstering is a lot of work and takes practice. But Henderson swears by reupholstering and says it's not that hard if you stick to the right fabrics. "I buy pieces for $100 and reupholster them for $200 or $300," she said. "It's a one-of-a-kind piece."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRESH HOME MAGAZINE/FRESHHOMEIDEAS.COM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Rub-on decals along with pansy-shaped ceramic knobs button up the look of the dresser.

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DIY IDEAS

Ah! The warmer temperatures are bringing us back outdoors.

But before you can truly enjoy the fresh air — there are many needed updates to your patio areas to help recover from the harsh effects of old man winter.

Luckily, with a few spruce–up projects in only a weekend, you can achieve a patio revival that's simple, yet sensational.

Wash away winter

No matter what type of patio, pressure washing is a simple way to make it shine.

It offers instant gratification as layers of dirt, dust and grime are quickly blasted away. Don't have a pressure washer? Don't worry, most rental companies or home improvement centres offer reasonably priced daily rentals. Or it's an opportunity to visit the neighbours who you haven't seen during the cold months to borrow theirs.

Bring new life to old furniture

Once your patio is clean, bring out the seating.

But have your table and chairs seen better days? Fortunately, you can easily turn something ready for the trash into a new treasure by updating it with a coat of spray paint.

To start, lightly sand and clean the entire surface. Next, spray the entire piece of furniture with a new, updated paint colour.

Petals and pots with pizzazz

Finally, liven up your patio with beautiful flowers. But just as important as the pretty petals, is planting them in the perfect pot. Terra cotta pots are ideal since they come in a variety of sizes and are inexpensive. For added pizzazz, you can update these planters with a splash of colour.

To start, turn each pot upside down on newspaper and spray the pot with your favourite shade of spray paint. Once dry, you may choose to spray your vibrant pot with a clear or glitter spray to achieve the dazzling finish you desire. NEWS CANADA

ISTOCK

▶ Is it cocktail hour yet?

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Tex-Mex night

- These Fajitas offer a twist by using beef & asparagus
- The Enchilada Roll-Ups are made in the slow cooker

BOTH PHOTOS: THE CANADIAN PRESS HO

▶ This recipe will serve six.

These colourful beef fajitas are filled with vegetables. Set out bowls of lettuce, chopped tomato, shredded cheese and sour cream and let the Tex-Mex fun begin!

Ingredients:

- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) each chili powder and ground cumin
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) each salt and pepper
- 500 g (1 lb) grilling steak
- 500 g (1 lb) asparagus, trimmed; cut into quarters
- 625 ml (2 1/2 cups) sliced white mushrooms
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 sweet peppers, sliced
- 1 onion, thinly sliced
- 20 ml (4 tsp) vegetable oil
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) dry oregano
- 6 whole-wheat tortillas
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) cilantro

Preparation:

1. In a bowl, stir together chili powder, cumin, salt and pepper; rub into both sides of steak.
2. In a bowl, combine asparagus, mushrooms, garlic, peppers, onion, oil and oregano. Then stack tortillas and double wrap in foil.
3. Place steak on greased grill and veggies in grilling basket over medium-high heat. Close lid and grill steak until medium-rare, about 8 minutes, turning once. Transfer steak to cutting board; tent with foil. Let stand.
4. Grill vegetables, tossing occasionally, until tender-crisp, 8 to 10 minutes. Meanwhile, place tortillas on grill and warm through, about 3 minutes.
5. To serve, slice steak thinly across grain. In bowl, combine steak, vegetables and cilantro. Serve with tortillas and desired accompaniment. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/ FOODLAND ONTARIO**

Enchilada Roll-Ups

Preparation:

1. Cut each chicken breast lengthwise into 2 or 3 strips. Combine chicken with 125 ml (1/2 cup) flour and salt in a resealable bag; shake to coat chicken.
2. Heat butter in stoneware of slow cooker on stove top. Brown chicken, 3 minutes per side. Add broth, scrape up brown bits. Transfer stoneware to slow cooker base. Add onion, jalapeno pepper and oregano. Cover; cook on low for 7 to 8 hours.
3. In a bowl, blend 30 ml (2 tbsp) flour and milk until smooth. Stir into chicken mix and cook, uncovered, on high for 15 mins, or until thick.
4. Spoon mix onto centre of flour tortillas. Fold; garnish with cheese and olives. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/ CROCK-POT**

Ingredients:

- 750 g (1 1/2 lb) boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 125 ml plus 30 ml (1/2 cup plus 2 tbsp) flour
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) butter
- 250 ml (1 cup) chicken broth
- 1 small onion, diced
- 1 jalapeno pepper, diced
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) dried oregano
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) milk
- Six 18- to 20-cm (7- to 8-inch) flour tortillas
- Grated cheddar cheese and sliced black olives, for garnish

Tampa forces another Game 7

Lightning's Roloson improves to 7-0 in elimination games in his career

5	4
LIGHTNING	BRUINS

Martin St. Louis and Teddy Purcell each scored twice, resilient goalie Dwayne Roloson weathered a hat trick by Boston's David Krejci, and the Tampa Bay Lightning stayed alive in the Eastern Conference finals with a 5-4 win over the Boston Bruins in Game 6 last night.

Game 7 is tomorrow night in Boston (CBC, 8 p.m.). The Bruins are seeking their first trip to the Stanley Cup finals in 21 years, and the Lightning will try to clinch their first appearance on hockey's biggest stage since they won their only NHL championship in 2004.

The Western Conference champion Vancouver Canucks await the winner in the finals.

St. Louis also assisted on a third-period goal that put the Lightning up 4-2. His second goal — and NHL-leading 10th of the playoffs — restored Tampa Bay's two-goal lead after Boston pulled within 4-3 on one of two goals Krejci scored to keep the Bruins within striking distance in the closing minutes.

Roloson, who didn't play in Game 5, gave up a pair of first-period goals and finished with 16 saves.

Boston's Tim Thomas gave up another early goal, then struggled after Krejci and Milan Lucic scored to give the Bruins a 2-1 lead through one period.

The Lightning took control when St. Louis, Purcell and Steve Stamkos scored power-play goals within a 12-minute span of the second and third periods.

The Lightning rallied from a 3-1 deficit to beat Pittsburgh in the first round, with their 41-year-old goalie shutting out the Penguins in Game 7 on the road.

Tampa got off to a quick start as Purcell scored on the Lightning's opening shot.

Lucic countered for Boston less than seven minutes later with a wrist shot from the slot that got past Roloson. Krejci's third goal of the series, after he took a backhand pass from Daniel Paille, gave the Bruins a 2-1 lead with 3:30 remaining in the first.

But Boston's failure to take advantage of three more power plays caught up with them in the middle of the second period when Tampa Bay converted three within 12 minutes to regain the lead for good.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JUSTIN K. ALLER/GETTY IMAGES

▶ The Lightning's Martin St. Louis celebrates his second-period goal with Steve Stamkos in Tampa, Fla., last night.

4 sports

Quoted

"You could ask 27 teams and I think they're a little jealous at the success we've had ... To get here is an accomplishment, but next year we've got to beat it."

SAN JOSE CAPTAIN JOE THORNTON ON BEING ELIMINATED BY THE VANCOUVER CANUCKS IN THE WESTERN CONFERENCE FINALS.

Mavs finish off Thunder

Dirk Nowitzki, Jason Kidd and the Dallas Mavericks are going back to the NBA finals.

Nowitzki swished a go-ahead three-pointer with 1:14 left and Shawn Marion followed with a three-point play off a steal, the pivotal plays in yet another fourth-quarter comeback. This one sent the Mavericks to a 100-96 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder last night to close out the Western Conference finals in five games.

After clawing back from down 15 with 5:04 left in Game 4, the Mavericks were down by six with 4:37 left in this one when they rallied again, outscoring the Thunder 14-4 the rest of the way.

Dallas awaits the winner between the Miami Heat and the Chicago Bulls in the Eastern Conference finals.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RONALD MARTINEZ/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Dirk Nowitzki

Sports in brief

Rose pleads guilty to DUI

NBA. Former Toronto Raptor Jalen Rose pleaded guilty yesterday to drunk driving, admitting to a judge that he got behind the wheel after drinking six martinis and wound up crashing his SUV.

Rose faces up to 93 days in jail and a $500 US fine.

He was arrested March 11 after his Cadillac Escalade crashed northwest of Detroit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Isles re-sign young winger

NHL. Kyle Okposo agreed to a five-year, $14-million US deal yesterday to stay with the New York Islanders. The 23-year-old had five goals and 15 assists last season after missing 44 games with injury. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MIKE EHRMANN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ The Heat's LeBron James guards Derrick Rose of the Bulls in Game 5 of the East finals in Miami.

Big 3 turn up Heat on Bulls

Miami defence has zoned in on Chicago offence, including MVP Rose

LeBron James is doing it all for Miami, hitting big shots and clamping down on MVP Derrick Rose.

The Heat lead the Chicago Bulls 3-1 in the Eastern Conference finals and a win tonight in Chicago means they'll be playing for a championship.

That's exactly the way James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh envisioned it when they decided to join forces in the off-season. Miami is on the verge of the finals after a 101-93 overtime win on Tuesday.

James led the way with 35 points and helped contain Rose down the stretch. Bosh chipped in with 22, Wade came up with three big blocks in overtime and the bench delivered.

Now, they'll try to close this one out.

"We understand it's going to be a tough game," Wade said. "But we have the team and we have the guys that are capable of showing up and putting on a performance that we need to win the game. It's not going to be pretty, but that's not Miami Heat basketball anyway."

The Bulls' first three-game skid of the season could not have come at a worse time.

"When you look at the score, 3-1, it looks bad," Chicago's Luol Deng said.

4

The Bulls dropped consecutive games only four times during the regular season and never lost more than two in a row.

But he was quick to point out the games have been close. That's one reason he insisted the Bulls are not out of it.

"I really believe we've got a group of guys that are going to keep on fighting," Deng said. "There's no quit in us. There's no quit in that locker-room. It's really going to come down to the end of the game again."

The Bulls surprised many this season by jumping to a league-leading 62 wins, with Rose becoming the youngest ever MVP.

Along the way, they swept three close games from the Heat during the regular season. They even left them in tears after beating them in March, when they were in a five-game losing streak and appeared to be unraveling.

Now it's Miami that has Chicago's players and coach of the year Tom Thibodeau rubbing their eyes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COACHING HIRE

Lakers turn to LeBron's ex-coach

JONATHAN DANIEL/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Mike Brown

The Los Angeles Lakers reached a deal in principle with former Cleveland coach Mike Brown yesterday to succeed Phil Jackson, according to a person with knowledge of the discussions.

Brown will get a four-year deal worth roughly $18 million US, according to the person who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because Brown hadn't yet been formally hired.

The Lakers released a statement later yesterday confirming the club hopes to make Brown the 22nd coach in franchise history.

"We've met with Mike and are very impressed with him," said the statement from the Lakers' public relations. "In addition, we have an outline for an agreement in place and hope to sign a contract within the next few days."

With a strong interview last weekend, Brown became the top candidate for the daunting challenge of succeeding the 11-time NBA champion Jackson with one of the NBA's iconic franchises. The Lakers' 16 NBA titles trail only the Boston Celtics' 17 in league history.

Rather than promoting one of Jackson's assistant coaches, the Lakers are changing course after an abrupt end to their two-year title reign.

Kobe Bryant endorsed Jackson assistant Brian Shaw for the job, but Jim Buss — the Lakers' executive vice-president of player personnel and the son of owner Jerry Buss — became intrigued by Brown after the interview.

A respected tactician with a strong pedigree, Brown has experience with big games and stars, even if he couldn't get LeBron James a title.

"Mike Brown is a great coach," James said in Miami. "I respect him. He definitely helped me become who I am today."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Coaches jump into NFL labour court battle

NFL coaches are teaming up with the players in their legal fight to end the owner-imposed lockout.

The NFL Coaches Association filed a brief with the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals yesterday expressing support for the players and saying that the lockout is putting their jobs in jeopardy.

"Owners and fans increasingly demand immediate success, and coaches whose teams cannot fulfil such severe expectations face likely dismissal, which means the uprooting of families, economic dislocation and a significantly less promising career path," lawyers for the NFLCA wrote.

No individual coaches were identified in the brief, which said that the eight new coaches hired this year face particularly daunting odds of success if the lockout is not lifted soon. The NFL grants new coaches two extra summer minicamps to get players familiar with the new staff, and the elimination of those camps puts them at a competitive disadvantage heading into the season.

"To meet management's expectations, coaches need adequate time in the off-season to prepare their players for the season ahead," the filing said. "Each day lost in preparing for the season further diminishes coaches' opportunities to prove themselves and advance their career."

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said the league was not surprised by the filing.

"The Coaches Association offices with the Players Association in Washington," Aiello wrote in an email to The Associated Press. "So this comes as no surprise."

The 8th Circuit has set a June 3 hearing to hear arguments on whether the lockout is legal. A federal judge in St. Paul, Minn., initially ruled that the lockout was illegal, but the 8th Circuit put a stay on that ruling pending the appeal.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

PLAYOFFS
All Times Eastern

CONFERENCE FINALS
(Best-of-7 series)

EASTERN CONFERENCE
BOSTON (3) vs. TAMPA BAY (5)
(Series tied at 3-3)
Last night's result
Tampa Bay 5 Boston 4
Tomorrow's game
Tampa Bay at Boston, 8 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE
VANCOUVER (1) vs. SAN JOSE (2)
(Vancouver wins series 4-1)
Tuesday's result
Vancouver 3 San Jose 2 (2)T)

LIGHTNING 5, BRUINS 4
First Period
1. Tampa Bay, Purcell 5 (Lecavalier) 0:36
2. Boston, Lucic 3 (Horton, Boychuk) 7:09
3. Boston, Krejci 8 (Paille) 16:30
Penalties — Malone TB (tripping) 7:36, Brewer TB (tripping) 13:17.
Second Period
4. Tampa Bay, St. Louis 9 (Lecavalier, Stamkos) 7:55 (pp)
5. Tampa Bay, Purcell 6 (Downie, Clark) 13:35 (pp)
Penalties — Hedman TB (high-sticking) 1:52, Seidenberg Bos (cross-checking) 7:39, Brewer TB (interference) 8:03, Peverley Bos (interference) 11:52, Ference Bos (cross-checking) 19:05.
Third Period
6. Tampa Bay, Stamkos 6 (Brewer, St. Louis) 0:34 (pp)
7. Boston, Krejci 9 (Horton, Kaberle) 9:46 (pp)
8. Tampa Bay, St. Louis 10 (Downie, Stamkos) 10:15
9. Boston, Krejci 10 (Lucic, Kaberle) 13:28
Penalties — Kaberle Bos (interference) 6:58, Lecavalier TB (hooking) 8:12.

Shots

Boston	8	6	6	20
Tampa Bay	4	13	9	26

Goal — Boston: Thomas (L,11-6-0); Tampa Bay: Roloson (W,10-5-0). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Boston: 1-5; Tampa Bay: 3-4.
Referees — Eric Furlatt, Kelly Sutherland.
Linesmen — Brad Kovachik, Jean Morin.
Attendance — 21,426 (19,758).

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
H.Sedin, Vcr	2	19	21
St. Louis, TB	10	10	20
Lecavalier, TB	6	13	19
Kesler, Vcr	7	11	18
Purcell, TB	6	11	17
J.Thornton, SJ	3	14	17
Krejci, Bos	10	6	16
D.Sedin, Vcr	8	8	16
Horton, Bos	7	9	16
Boyle, SJ	3	13	16
Clowe, SJ	6	9	15
P.Bergeron, Bos	4	11	15
Datsyuk, Det	4	11	15
Burrows, Vcr	7	7	14
Couture, SJ	7	7	14
Downie, TB	2	12	14
Marleau, SJ	8	5	13
Ward, Nash	7	6	13
Stamkos, TB	6	7	13
Marchand, Bos	6	6	12
Gagne, TB	5	7	12
Giroux, Pha	1	11	12

HOCKEY

MEMORIAL CUP
At Mississauga, Ont.

ROUND ROBIN
Last night's result
Mississauga 3 Owen Sound 1
End of Round Robin
Tonight's game
Tiebreaker
Kootenay vs. Owen Sound, 7 p.m.
Tomorrow's game
Semifinal
Mississauga vs. Kootenay/Owen Sound, 7 p.m.

ACTIVITY

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Activated RHP Mitch Talbot from the 15-day DL. Optioned RHP Josh Judy to Columbus (IL).
NEW YORK YANKEES — Claimed RHP Kanekoa Texeira off waivers from Kansas City and optioned him to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL). Transferred RHP Phil Hughes to the 60-day DL.
TAMPA BAY BAYS — Activated SS Reid Brignac from the bereavement list. Placed INF Elliot Johnson on the 15-day DL.

CFL
EDMONTON ESKIMOS — Signed DB Hugo Lopez.
WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Named Markus Howell defensive and special teams assistant coach.

NHL
DETROIT RED WINGS — Announced the retirement of D Brian Rafalski.

CYCLING

GIRO D'ITALIA
At Tirano, Italy
Stage 17
1. Diego Ulissi, Italy, Lampre, five hours, 31 minutes, 51 seconds; 2. Pablo Lastras Garcia, Spain, Movistar, same time; 3. Giovanni Visconti, Italy, Farnese Vini, s.t.; 4. Jan Bakelandts, Belgium, Omega Pharma, four seconds behind; 5. Fabio Taborre, Italy, Acqua&Sapone, 0:08; 6. Eduard Vorganov, Russia, Katusha, s.t.; 7. Hubert Dupont, France, AG2R, s.t.; 8. Jesus Hernandez, Spain, Saxo Bank, s.t.; 9. Robert Kiserlovski, Croatia, Astana, s.t.; 10. Kanstantsin Sivtsov, Belarus, HTC-High Road, 0:10.
Also: 50. Michael Barry, Toronto, Sky Procycling, 3:33
Overall Standings
(after 17th of 21 stages)
1. Alberto Contador, Spain, Saxo Bank, 68 hours, 18 minutes, 27 seconds; 2. Michele Scarponi, Italy, Lampre, 4:58; 3. Vincenzo Nibali, Italy, Liquigas, 5:45; 4. John Gadret, France, AG2R, 7:35; 5. Kanstantsin Sivtsov, Belarus, HTC-High Road, 9:12; 6. Jose Rujano, Venezuela, Androni, 9:18; 7. Mikel Nieve Ituralde, Spain, Euskaltel, 9:22; 8. Denis Menchov, Russia, Geox, 9:38; 9. Roman Kreuziger, Czech Republic, Astana, 9:47; 10. Joaquin Rodriguez, Spain, Katusha, 10:25.
Also: 65. Michael Barry, Toronto, Sky Procycling, 1:34:30.

NBA

PLAYOFFS
All Times Eastern

CONFERENCE FINALS
(Best-of-7 series)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Chicago (1) vs. Miami (2)
(Miami leads series 3-1)
Tuesday's result
Miami 101 Chicago 93 (OT)
Tonight's game
Miami at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Saturday's game
x-Chicago at Miami, 8:30 p.m.
Monday, May 30
x-Miami at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Dallas (3) vs. Oklahoma City (4)
(Dallas wins series 4-1)
Last night's result
Dallas 100 Oklahoma City 96

MAVS 100, THUNDER 96
OKLAHOMA CITY (96)
Durant 8-20 4-6 23, Ibaka 1-6 0-0 2, Perkins 0-2 0-0 0, Westbrook 11-28 9-9 31, Sefolosha 0-0 0-0 0, Collison 6-9 0-0 12, Harden 7-11 8-10 23, Maynor 2-6 0-0 5, Cook 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 35-82 21-25 96.
DALLAS (100)
Marion 10-17 6-7 26, Nowitzki 8-15 9-9 26, Chandler 3-7 3-3 9, Kidd 1-7 0-0 2, Stevenson 0-7 1-2 1, Stojakovic 1-4 0-0 3, Terry 3-9 4-5 12, Haywood 1-1 5-6 7, Barea 5-11 3-4 14. Totals 32-78 31-36 100.

Oklahoma City	27	28	21	20	96
Dallas	26	26	20	28	100

3-Point Goals—Oklahoma City 5-16 (Durant 3-5, Maynor 1-3, Harden 1-5, Westbrook 0-3), Dallas 5-20 (Terry 2-3, Nowitzki 1-2, Barea 1-2, Stojakovic 1-4, Marion 0-1, Kidd 0-3, Stevenson 0-5). Fouled Out—Chandler. Rebounds—Oklahoma City 52 (Collison 12), Dallas 50 (Nowitzki, Chandler 9). Assists—Oklahoma City 16 (Harden 6), Dallas 19 (Kidd 10). Total Fouls—Oklahoma City 24, Dallas 17. Technicals—Westbrook, Oklahoma City defensive three second. A—21,092 (19,200).

SCORING AVERAGE

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	16	147	136	464	29.0
Nowitzki, DAL	14	132	121	400	28.6
Rose, CHI	15	140	106	409	27.3
Howard, ORL	6	51	60	162	27.0
Anthony, NYK	4	33	29	104	26.0
James, MIA	14	123	98	362	25.9

Not including last night's game

SOCCER

MLS
Last night's results
Colorado 2 New York 2
Dallas at Seattle
Houston at Los Angeles
All times Eastern
Saturday's games
Philadelphia at Toronto, 12:30 p.m.
New York at Vancouver, 5:30 p.m.
Chivas USA at Columbus, 7:30 p.m.
Los Angeles at New England, 8 p.m.
FC Dallas at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
San Jose at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Seattle at Real Salt Lake, 9 p.m.
Kansas City at Colorado, 9 p.m.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	27	21	.563	—
Boston	27	22	.551	½
Tampa Bay	26	23	.531	1½
Toronto	24	25	.490	3½
Baltimore	23	24	.489	3½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	30	17	.638	—
Detroit	25	23	.521	5½
Kansas City	22	26	.458	8½
Chicago	23	28	.451	9
Minnesota	16	32	.333	14½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	26	24	.520	—
Los Angeles	25	25	.500	1
Seattle	24	25	.490	1½
Oakland	23	26	.469	2½

Yesterday's results
Boston 14 Cleveland 2
N.Y. Yankees 7 Toronto 3
Tampa Bay at Detroit (ppd., rain)
Seattle 3 Minnesota 0
Texas 2 Chicago White Sox 1
Baltimore 9 Kansas City 2
Oakland at L.A. Angels
Today's games
Kansas City (Francis 1-5) at Baltimore (Guthrie 2-6), 12:35 p.m.
Boston (Aceves 1-0) at Detroit (Scherzer 6-1), 1:05 p.m.
Oakland (Anderson 2-4) at L.A. Angels (Pineiro 2-0), 3:35 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Humber 3-3) at Toronto (Morrow 2-2), 7:07 p.m.

YANKEES 7, BLUE JAYS 3

Toronto	ab	r	h	bi	New York	ab	r	h	bi
YEscor ss	4	0	1	0	Jeter ss	3	1	1	0
JMcDnl pr-ss	0	0	0	0	Grndrs cf	4	1	2	1
Arencii ph	1	0	0	0	Teixeir 1b	5	1	1	2
CPttrsn lf	4	1	1	0	AlRdrg dh	4	0	1	0
Bautist rf	3	0	1	0	Cano 2b	4	0	1	0
JRiver 1b	4	0	1	1	Martin c	2	1	0	0
JMolin c	3	0	0	0	Swisher rf	3	1	0	0
A.Hill 2b	4	1	2	0	Gardnr lf	0	0	0	0
EThms dh	4	1	2	1	AnJons lf	3	2	3	4
RDavis cf	4	0	2	0	Dickrsn lf-rf	1	0	0	0
J.Nix 3b	3	0	0	1	ENunez 3b	4	0	0	0
Encrnc ph	1	0	0	0					
Totals	**35**	**3**	**10**	**3**	**Totals**	**33**	**7**	**9**	**7**
Toronto					**000 001 200**			**3**	
New York					**122 002 00x**			**7**	

E—J.Molina (1), A.Hill (1). DP—Toronto 1, New York 1. LOB—Toronto 7, New York 8. 2B—C.Patterson (13), E.Thames (2), R.Davis (5), Jeter (5), Granderson 2 (7). 3B—Y.Escobar (3). HR—Teixeira (13), An.Jones 2 (4). SB—R.Davis (13), Al.Rodriguez (2), Cano (4), Martin (4). CS—Bautista (2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Toronto						
Jo-.Reyes L,0-4	3	5	5	5	2	0
L.Perez	4	4	2	2	2	3
Camp	1	0	0	0	1	0
New York						
F.Garcia W,3-4	6 1-3	8	3	3	0	4
Robertson	2-3	0	0	0	0	1
Chamberlain	1	1	0	0	1	0
Ma.Rivera	1	1	0	0	0	1

HBP—by L.Perez (Granderson), by F.Garcia (Bautista). WP—Jo-.Reyes.
Umpires—Home, Wally Bell; First, Laz Diaz; Second, Scott Barry; Third, John Hirschbeck.
T—2:41. A—43,201 (50,291) at New York.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	29	19	.604	—
Florida	27	19	.587	1
Atlanta	28	23	.549	2½
New York	23	25	.479	6
Washington	21	28	.429	8½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	30	21	.588	—
Milwaukee	27	23	.540	2½
Cincinnati	26	23	.531	3
Pittsburgh	22	26	.458	6½
Chicago	21	26	.447	7
Houston	19	31	.380	10½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	27	20	.574	—
Arizona	25	24	.510	3
Colorado	24	24	.500	3½
Los Angeles	22	29	.431	7
San Diego	20	30	.400	8½

Yesterday's results
Atlanta 4 Pittsburgh 2 (11 inn.)
Milwaukee 6 Washington 4
Houston 2 L.A. Dodgers 1
San Diego 3 St. Louis 1
Cincinnati at Philadelphia
N.Y. Mets 7 Chicago Cubs 6 (6 inn.)
Arizona 2 Colorado 1
Florida at San Francisco
Today's games
Cincinnati (Bailey 3-1) at Philadelphia (Cl.Lee 3-4), 1:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Dickey 2-5) at Chicago Cubs (Zambrano 4-2), 2:20 p.m.
Florida (Ani.Sanchez 3-1) at San Francisco (Vogelsong 3-0), 3:45 p.m.
Arizona (Owings 0-0) at Colorado (Mortensen 1-1), 8:40 p.m.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Boston 4 Cleveland 2
Baltimore 5 Kansas City 3
Detroit 7 Tampa Bay 6
N.Y. Yankees 5 Toronto 4
Chicago White Sox 8 Texas 6
Minnesota 4 Seattle 2
Oakland 6 L.A. Angels 1

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Colorado 12 Arizona 4 (1st game)
Atlanta 2 Pittsburgh 0
Cincinnati 6 Philadelphia 3
L.A. Dodgers 5 Houston 4
Chicago Cubs 11 N.Y. Mets 1
Milwaukee 7 Washington 6
Arizona 5 Colorado (2nd game)
St. Louis 3 San Diego 2 (11 inn.)
Florida 5 San Francisco 1

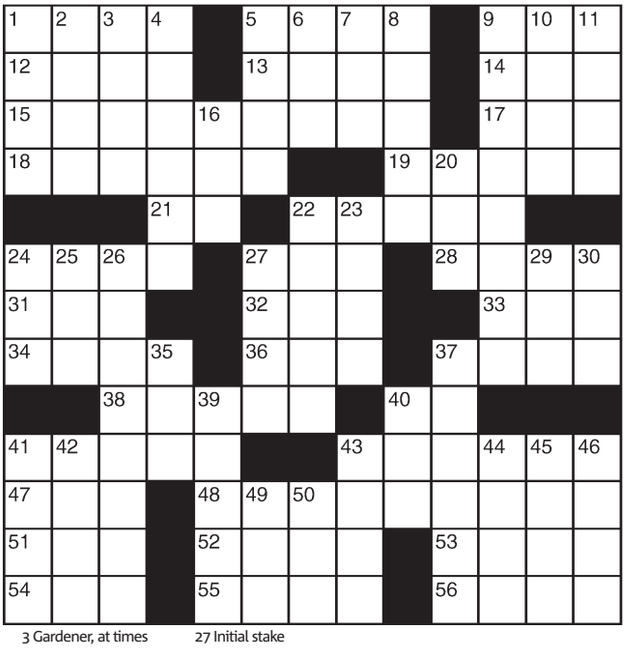
LACROSSE

2011 WORLD MEN'S INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIP
At Prague, Czech Republic
Playoffs
Today's games
Seventh Place
First Leg
Slovakia vs. Ireland, 4 a.m.
Quarter-finals
U.S. vs. Australia, 10 a.m.
England vs. Czech Republic, 1 p.m.

TENNIS

FRENCH OPEN
At Paris
MEN
Singles
First Round
Novak Djokovic (2), Serbia, def. Victor Hanescu, Romania, 6-4, 6-1, 2-3, retired.
Roger Federer (3), Switzerland, def. Maxime Teixeira, France, 6-3, 6-0, 6-2.
David Ferrer (7), Spain, def. Julien Benneteau, France, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.
Gael Monfils (9), France, def. Guillaume Rufin, France, 6-3, 1-6, 6-1, 6-3.
Mikhail Youzhny (12), Russia, def. Mikhail Kukushkin, Kazakhstan, 6-3, 7-5, 6-4.
Richard Gasquet (13), France, def. Marcel Granollers, Spain, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.
Stanislas Wawrinka (14), Switzerland, def. Thomas Schoorel, Netherlands, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.
Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (17), France, def. Igor Andreev, Russia, 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-3.
Thomaz Bellucci (23), Brazil, def. Andreas Seppi, Italy, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4.
Juan Martin del Potro (25), Argentina, def. Blaz Kavcic, Slovenia, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.
Janko Tipsarevic (29), Serbia, def. Pere Riba, Spain, 6-1, 6-3, 6-0.
Guillermo Garcia-Lopez (30), Spain, def. Marsel Ilhan, Turkey, 6-4, 1-6, 6-2, 4-6, 13-11.
Sergiy Stakhovsky (31), Ukraine, def. Kei Nishikori, Japan, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (3).
Steve Darcis, Belgium, def. Philipp Petzschner, Germany, 7-5, 6-4, 6-4.
Albert Montanes, Spain, def. Ruben Ramirez Hidalgo, Spain, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 6-1, 6-2.
Fabio Fognini, Italy, def. Stephane Robert, France, 6-2, 6-1, 6-0.
Women
Second Round
Caroline Wozniacki (1), Denmark, def. **Aleksandra Wozniak, Blainville, Que.,** 6-3, 7-6 (6).
Vera Zvonareva (3), Russia, def. Sabine Lisicki, Germany, 4-6, 7-5, 7-5.
Francesca Schiavone (5), Italy, def. Vesna Dolonts, Russia, 6-1, 6-2.
Sam Stosur (8), Australia, def. Simona Halep, Romania, 6-0, 6-2.
Jelena Jankovic (10), Serbia, def. Vera Dushevina, Russia, 6-3, 6-2.
Marion Bartoli (11), France, def. Olga Govortsova, Belarus, 6-4, 6-7 (1), 6-2.
Svetlana Kuznetsova (13), Russia, def. Irina-Camelia Begu, Romania, 6-1, 6-1.
Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (14), Russia, def. Mona Barthel, Germany, 6-0, 7-6 (5).
Julia Goerges (17), Germany, def. Lucie Safarova, Czech Republic, 2-6, 7-5, 6-2.
Daniela Hantuchova (28), Slovakia, def. Sara Errani, Italy, 6-1, 6-2.
Peng Shuai (29), China, def. Polona Hercog, Slovenia, 7-5, 6-1.
Rebecca Marino, Vancouver, def. Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez, Spain, 2-6, 6-3, 6-3.
Anastasia Rodionova, Australia, def. Edina Gallovits-Hall, Romania, 6-1, 6-4.
Gisela Dulko, Argentina, def. Tsvetana Pironkova (32), Bulgaria, 6-4, 6-2.
Bethanie Mattek-Sands, U.S., def. Varvara Lepchenko, U.S., 6-3, 2-6, 6-3.
Nuria Llagostera Vives, Spain, def. Alize Cornet, France, 6-0, 6-2.
Mixed
First Round
Chan Yung-jan, Taiwan, and Eric Butorac, United States, def. Vania King, U.S., and **Daniel Nestor (2), Toronto,** 3-6, 6-3, 12-10 tiebreak.

Crossword



Across

1 Rue the workout
5 Conks on the noggin
9 Rx safety grp.
12 Glimpse
13 Emanation
14 Filch
15 Sort of basketball shot
17 Lamb's dam
18 Skilled
19 Occurrence
21 "People" rival
22 Big name in Cuban history
24 Present
27 Curved line
28 Pitch
31 Blunder
32 Ultramodernist
33 Suitable
34 Bump into
36 X rating?
37 Crucial time
38 Made comfortable
40 Exist
41 Secret society
43 Beachwear for a baby
47 Actress Mendes
48 Type of swim competition
51 Scale note
52 Green land
53 Pinnacle
54 Piercing tool
55 Highway
56 For fear that

Down

1 — Romeo
2 String
3 Gardener, at times
4 Barely manage
5 Money of Thailand
6 "— Father, who ..."
7 Expert
8 Cut into boards
9 Mooch
10 Puzzle direction
11 Help a hood
16 "— the season ..."
20 Doggy doc
22 DJ legend Alan
23 Pedestal occupant
24 Jewel
25 Anger
26 Plummet
27 Initial stake
29 Hot tub
30 Pigs' digs
35 Mai — (cocktail)
37 Health plan coverage
39 Less risky
40 Urban transport
41 Arizona city
42 Acknowledge
43 Start a garden
44 Big buildup
45 Milwaukee products
46 Libretto
49 Carnival city
50 Mound stat

▶ Yesterday's answer

S	L	U	G		W	A	D		T	I	L	E
P	U	R	R		E	M	U		O	T	I	S
I	T	S	A	F	A	C	T		U	S	E	S
T	E	A	P	O	T		C	A	R	A	F	E
			H	U	H		H	I	N	D		
F	B	I		R	E	D		R	E	E	F	S
L	E	T	S		R	U	B		Y	A	L	E
U	N	S	A	Y		E	L	M		L	Y	E
		A	D	O	S		O	A	R			
P	O	D	I	U	M		S	M	U	D	G	E
E	R	A	S		I	T	S	A	T	R	A	P
L	E	T	T		T	O	O		H	O	P	I
F	O	E	S		H	E	M		S	P	E	C

Sudoku

6		2	8		7	4		3
		5				7		
7	8						2	6
			6		8			
	1						6	
			4		2			
8	2						9	7
		9				1		
5		7	1		9	2		4

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

8	1	3	4	2	9	5	6	7
4	7	9	6	8	5	2	1	3
5	2	6	1	3	7	9	4	8
9	3	8	2	7	1	4	5	6
1	6	4	9	5	3	8	7	2
2	5	7	8	6	4	3	9	1
3	4	1	7	9	2	6	8	5
7	8	2	5	4	6	1	3	9
6	9	5	3	1	8	7	2	4

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You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

Bavinski, I love you with all my heart. I'm so glad I met you and I wouldn't change a thing if I could. Going on 2 years and it only gets stronger with each day. I love to think about the life we have ahead of us. No matter what the issue is our strength will get us thru. **B**

Baby Cakes, I just wanted to say how much I love & care about you...You truly are an amazing man and I'm so happy that you came into my life love always and forever..xoxo P.S Happy Anniversary. **CAREBEAR**

Michelle, Hi! Happy Birthday! I miss you so much! I hope you have the best Birthday, new year and everything you could ask for. I hope life treats you well, and every wish is accounted for! I love you so much! Can't wait to see you! xoxox **PAUL**

A look at the weather

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Min 7° Max 10°	Min 5° Max 7°	Min 8° Max 15°

Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist
"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta". **WEEKDAYS 6AM**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Put yourself forward and take initiative today. Make your own decisions.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 You will face many challenges over the next few days, but you have what it takes to survive and to thrive.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 A book or film will broaden your horizons today and raise your understanding to the next level.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Something of a joint nature needs to be handled carefully today, but it also needs you to make a final decision.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Let others know what you are thinking, but don't be too blunt or you may make it harder to get support.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 As a Virgo, you have a serious destiny. You don't know what it is? You will soon. Look at the bigger picture.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Avoid extremes today but don't avoid a challenge. Tackle tough tasks.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 If you are mindful of other people's needs today, you will accomplish a lot. Leave your ego at home.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 You've got a lot on your mind, but the answers may come easier if you let your hair down a bit.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Some people need motivating, others need loving. To you, both will come easy. It's the perfect balance.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Do something that makes important people sit up and take notice.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. If there's someone you want to impress, it's time to turn on the charm. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

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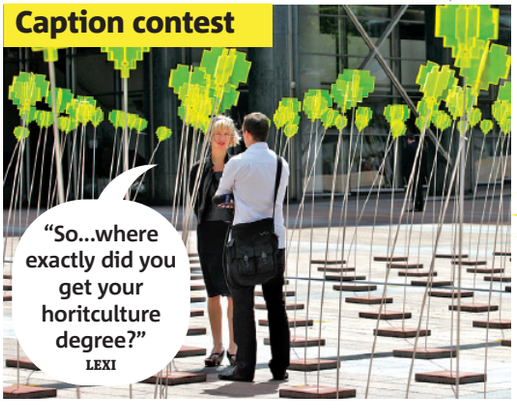

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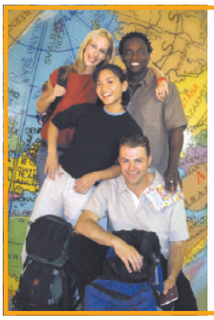
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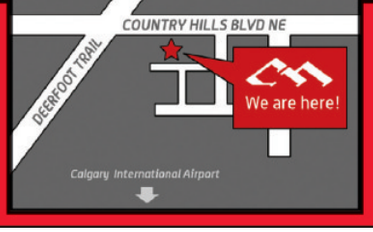

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